

# China

## Reconstructs

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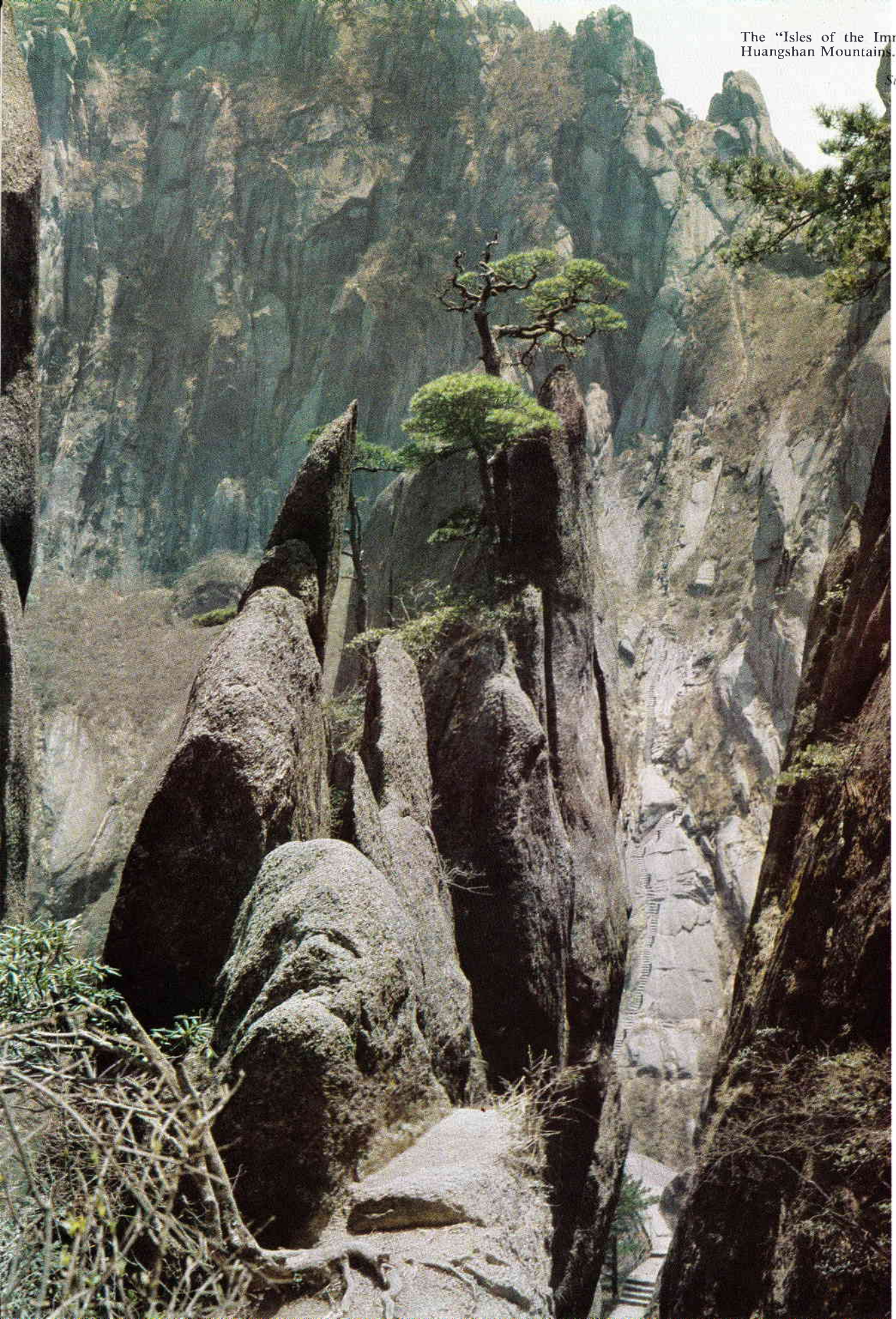


- **1911 Revolution:  
Its Meaning After  
70 Years**
- ***Shaolin Monastery: Home  
of Martial Arts***
- ***A County of Footballers***
- **Soong Ching Ling  
Memorial Supplement**



The "Isles of the Immortals,"  
Huangshan Mountains.

*Sun Suxian*





FOUNDER: SOONG CHING LING (MME. SUN YAT-SEN) (1893-1981). PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE CHINA WELFARE INSTITUTE IN ENGLISH, FRENCH, SPANISH, ARABIC, GERMAN, PORTUGUESE AND CHINESE

VOL. XXX NO. 9

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## CONTENTS

<b>The 70th Anniversary of the 1911 Revolution</b>	
Soong Ching Ling on Sun Yat-sen	6
The 1911 Revolution	9
Sun Yat-sen's Friendship with Communist Li Dazhao	13
The Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall in Guangzhou	16
<b>Politics</b>	
Firm in Conviction, Unceasing in Struggle — Deng Yingchao Recalls the Long March (Interview Part 2)	28
<b>Economics</b>	
Readjustment Brings More Consumer Goods	32
More Freshwater Fishing	62
<b>Society</b>	
Youth Service Team in Shanghai	59
Ex-Capitalists Aid Economy	66
<b>Science</b>	
Dinghushan — a Living Laboratory	24
<b>Art</b>	
Filming Lu Xun's 'Regret for the Past'	50
<b>Friendship</b>	
Far from Home: Arab Medical Students in Beijing	40
<b>Across the Land</b>	
Spring Comes to the Mei Mountain Ridge — A Visit to Meixian Prefecture. Home of Overseas Chinese (2)	43
Yangzhou — Ancient City Rich in Art	34
Shaolin Monastery and Its Martial Arts	52
<b>Sports/Medicine</b>	
'Home of Football'	46
How Barefoot Doctors Are Trained	21
<b>Nationalities</b>	
Tibet: 30 Years After Liberation	4
<b>Columns and Specials</b>	
Our Postbag	2
Sketchbook	3
Wit and Barbs	70
Do You Know? Facts from China's Books of Records	57
Black Chicken — the Medicinal Bird	61
Chinese Cookery: Lotus-White Chicken Slices	33
Legends and Tales from History: Houyi the Sun Shooter and Chang'e the Lady in the Moon	69
Children: How Do You Keep 485 Lions Clean?	65
Language Corner: Lesson 9	
Ancient Jokes	71
<b>Cover Pictures</b>	
Front: Bronze Statue of Dr. Sun Yat-sen before the Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall in Guangzhou. <i>Zhou Youma</i>	
Back: Autumn <i>Yang Yin</i>	

## Articles of the Month

### The Revolution of 1911

The story of Asia's first successful revolt against feudal monarchy; revolutionary leader Sun Yat-sen and pioneer Chinese Communist Li Dazhao; Soong Ching Ling (Mme. Sun Yat-sen) on her husband's life and aims. Page 6-13



### Light Industry Benefits from Readjustment

Two years of progress in expanding light industry to meet consumer demands. Page 32

### UNESCO Studies Dinghushan Nature Reserve

Why have primeval forests there flourished while others at the same latitude declined? A UNESCO research center tries to find answers. Page 24



### Meixian, 'Home of Football'

They're football mad in this Guangdong county. Page 43



### Shaolin Monastery and Its Boxing

The 1,400-year-old monastery that nurtured Chan (Zen) Buddhism and gave birth to one form of gongfu (Chinese martial arts). Page 52





## Nonpolitical and Refreshing

I am a recent subscriber to *China Reconstructs*; the first three issues for 1981 have arrived. I feel that I should tell you how happy I, my wife and children are with your effort.

Most of what you print appears to be nonpolitical in composition and that is refreshing. The articles are well written and we find them intensely interesting. Important, too, is the fact that we're given a glimpse of average Chinese people, and we realize—that like the average American—they are warm and compassionate, they make mistakes, they correct them, then work toward a better tomorrow. Indeed, we have much in common!

I believe it is vital that people of different cultures and political ideologies—you and I, for example—learn to understand each other.

We must do this so we can bridge the gap of discord that for years has existed between us. For the sake of our children, it is essential that we learn to live together in peace. The only way this will happen is through communication, for that is the only avenue to understanding. And, dear friends, by understanding each other, we will be better able to accept points of view that are different from our own.

ROY B. RIPLEY  
St. Petersburg, Florida, U.S.A.

## More Liberal Now

I regularly buy your magazine at the newsstand, and appreciate your articles on Buddhist temples and ancient art objects, and the Buddhist schools now opening in China!

I find that China is becoming more liberal, with the termination of the gang of four. I hope the Chinese people have more and more freedom. I myself believe in socialist ideals combined with freedom for people everywhere in the world.

DAVID S. SMEATON  
Beaverton, Ore., U.S.A.

## Economic Readjustment

"Economic Readjustment, Xue Muqiao Explains" in the April 1981 issue is well written, explains with facts and examples why China must readjust the economy, and refutes erroneous views in the world press.

The article on Chinese book publishing in the same issue also impressed

me. I have read a number of Chinese books in the past years, and agree that Chinese literature and art have changed in positive ways. I hope the Chinese will not assimilate uncritically Western "liberal" ideas, since many such ideas have been used to corrupt young people.

GERD WEDEMEYER  
Wiesbaden, West Germany

## Giant Project

"Giant Project on the Changjiang" in your February 1981 issue made me realize that China is much more than a rural country, as many Westerners still believe. I was amazed at the scope of this massive water control project and very interested in details regarding water flow, silt, etc.

GEORGE BURIAK  
Laurel, Md., U.S.A.

## Hani Nationality

I enjoyed "We of the Hani Nationality" in your August 1980 issue, and hope you will continue to publish articles on the various provinces and nationalities, as well as the life of individuals.

MOHD. BADRUL ALAM  
Jhenidah, Bangladesh

## Tree-Growing on the Mountains

Your country has provided a good example to other countries by leveling mountain areas and planting fruit trees and vegetables of all kinds.

I have been impressed by the fruit grown in Beijing. Here in Mauritius we don't get much fruit to consume and people die at a very young age due to lack of vitamins.

RAMDUTH FOOLMAUN  
L'Escalier, Mauritius

## Pre-Marital Clinic

I was very delighted to read in your November 1980 issue borrowed from a friend about a pre-marital clinic in Shanghai. Surely this shows the great achievements you have made in medical care for your entire people.

It is interesting to know that venereal disease has been virtually eliminated in China. This remains a real problem to many nations in the world.

J. H. KIYIMBA  
Kampala, Uganda

## Methane Gas

"Now They're Cooking with Gas" in the April 1981 issue impressed me very much. The story and charts tell clearly how a nation can make full use of wastes to develop rural areas and make progress in technology. This is really amazing! In the West, wastes usually

cannot be fully utilized. Instead, they become a factor in pollution.

PABLO QUINTERO E.  
Tocuyo, Venezuela

## Diversity of Subjects

I like the diversity in your articles during the past several months. The humor and legends columns are good additions. I like the Language Corner, and wish you had a cooking column as a regular feature.

Among the longer articles, I especially like ones that describe people's daily life—for example, the articles on village youth in the June 1981 issue—and those explaining economic and scientific developments, and introducing culture, arts, and literature.

I least like the articles about foreigners visiting China.

JEANNETTE L. FAUROT  
Austin, Tex. U.S.A.

## China's Help with Projects

I have always been very interested in how China has helped third world countries develop their infrastructures as the Chinese have done in their own country. I refer to projects undertaken by Chinese technicians and workers in the developing countries which use local materials and, to Westerners, rather primitive techniques—which I would instead call energy-and-money-saving techniques. I would like to read about such construction projects.

EINAR MATTHIASSEN  
Reykjavik, Iceland

## Too much on a Page

"Articles of the Month" makes the first page crowded. Its photos are too small. The front cover is more appealing when there is only one beautiful photo and little text. At least I hope you don't put the yellow line on the corner.

Some of your photos are too small, and you put too much text and too many photos on a page. Quality is more important than the amount of photos and text. In the article "Visit to the Xisha Islands" (September 1980) the photos were well placed. I also hope you consider the look of the titles. The title "The Huanghe Estuary" in the February 1981 issue looked nice.

I appreciated the "Tangshan Report" in the October 1980 issue. You might print such a special multi-part article every month. Family life would be an excellent subject—for instance, family relationships among the Hans and other nationalities, and in such depth and details as in "From Pairing to Marriage Among the Naxis" in the July 1980 issue.

KIRSTI ARJOLA  
Mantta, Finland



# Sketchbook

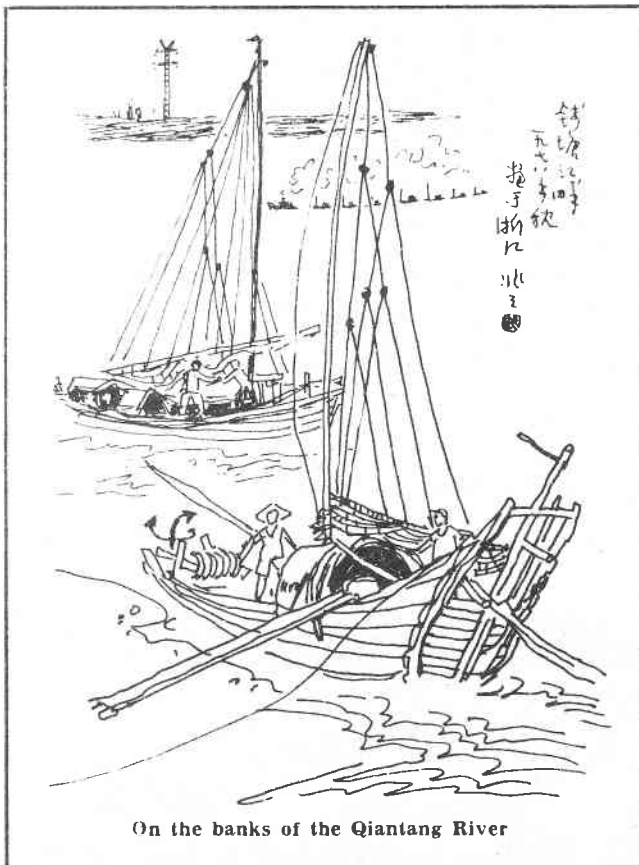
by Yang Zaosan



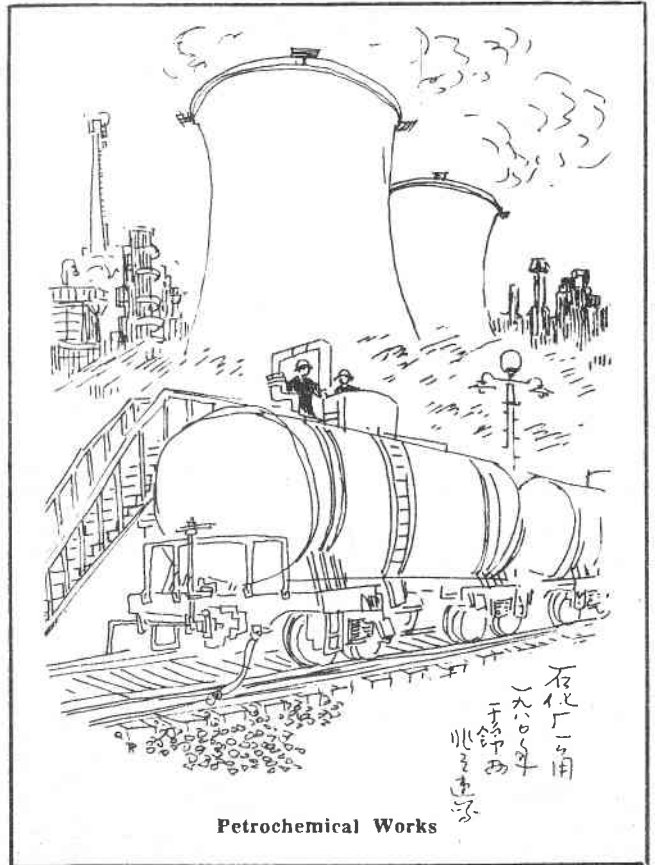
Country Fair



Peasant Girls



On the banks of the Qiantang River



Petrochemical Works



# Tibet: 30 Years After Liberation

**T**HIS year marks the thirtieth anniversary of Tibet's liberation. From an area extremely backward economically, its people isolated and suppressed under a harsh feudal system, in 30 years Tibet has taken many strides forward into the modern world.

However, a number of policies followed in Tibet during the "cultural revolution" and for a few years afterward ignored the concrete realities of the Tibetan agricultural economy and downplayed the particular needs and desires of the Tibetans — thereby causing great harm to the region's economy and to Tibetan life in general. Early in 1980, these policies were changed, and real efforts were made to give the Tibetans themselves greater autonomy over their economic and cultural life.\* What is the overall situation in Tibet — thirty years after liberation? Have the new policies had any effect? Let's look at some facts and figures.

**Industry:** Before 1951, Tibet had no real industrial base. Today this remote region boasts power, coal, chemical, construction materials, machine-building and timber-processing industries, as well as light industries such as wool spinning,

\* See *China Reconstructs*, October 1980.

match-making, printing and food processing. The region's total industrial output value last year reached 150 million yuan. Progress in hydro-power construction is typical. The installed capacity of the whole region before 1966 was only 10,000 kilowatts, while today it is 60,000 kw. Its generated energy reached 170 million kwh in 1980, as against 30.46 million kwh in 1966.

Traditional Tibetan handicraft industries — seriously disrupted during the "cultural revolution" — are again flourishing. The 1980 output value amounted to 6 million yuan, an increase of 21 percent over the 1979 figure. Special Tibetan products such as yak saddles, traditional clothing and cooking utensils made an even more spectacular recovery — production was up 43 percent over 1979.

**Agriculture:** The livelihood of most Tibetans depends on agriculture, stock raising, and small-scale sideline production. Here again there is steady progress, with some dramatic changes over the past year reflecting the new policies being put into effect. Grain output reached 505 million kilograms — a 210 percent increase over the 1951 figure, and 19 percent over the 1979 figure. Livestock numbered 23.8 million head, 2.3 times

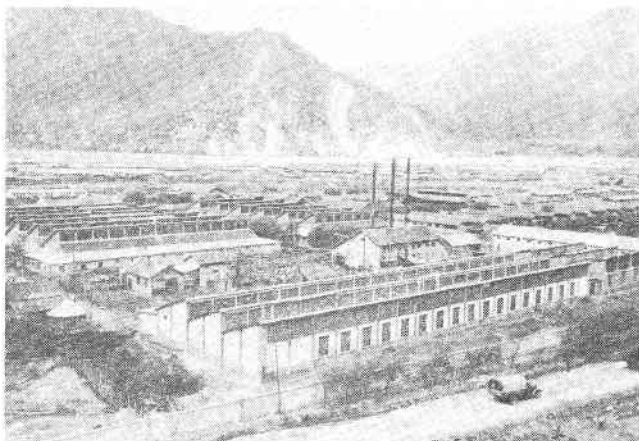
the total for 1959, and an increase of 1.6 percent over 1979. Rapeseed production boomed, growing by 35.6 percent over the 1979 figure. Total income from collective sideline production was up 6.7 percent over the 1979 figure. Commune members' private plots — discouraged during the "cultural revolution" — grew by 9,200 hectares in 1980. During the same period, privately-owned livestock increased by 1.36 million head.

**Transport:** Four trunk highways have been built linking Tibet with Sichuan, Qinghai and Yunnan provinces, and the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. The internal highway network, with Lhasa as its center, now stretches some 21,000 kilometers. Over 400 bridges totaling 13 km. are scattered throughout the region. All counties except Medog in southeast Tibet now have branch highways. Two air routes have been opened — from Lhasa to Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan province, and to Xi'an, the capital of Shaanxi province.

**Commerce:** Commercial activities — buying, selling, allocations and storage — are also on the upswing. The 1980 value of goods bought in the region was 40 million yuan, 17 times the total for 1959. Goods equivalent to 180 million yuan — 4.7 times the amount for

**Linzhi Woolen Mill — a step toward industrialization and increasing prosperity.**

*Dai Jiming*

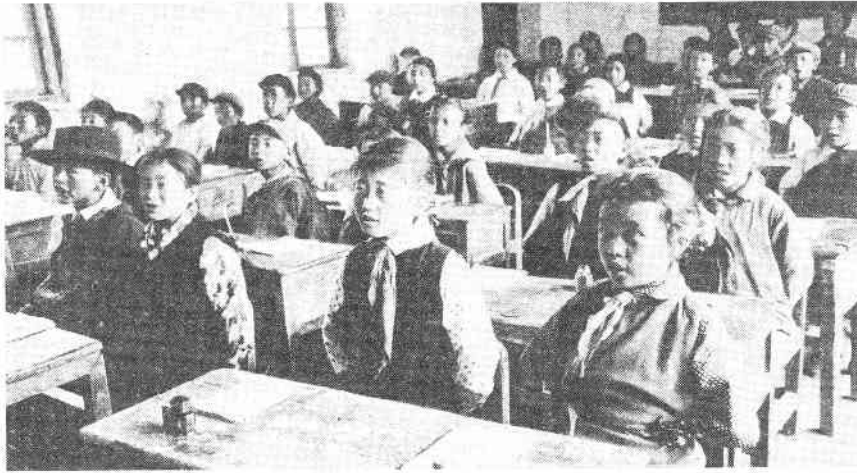


**Tibetan herds have grown rapidly through modern scientific methods of breeding and disease control.**

*Dai Jiming*







A Tibetan language class at the Lhasa No. 1 Primary School.



New stores in remote grassland and mountain areas.

1959 — were allocated to the region by the government during 1980.

**Education:** In 1951 less than ten schools (including old-style private schools) with 700 students existed in Tibet; 98 percent of all Tibetans were illiterate. Today the region has 6,586 primary schools, 55 middle schools, 22 secondary vocational schools, eight secondary technical schools, and four institutions of higher learning, with a total of 260,000 students. To date 142,400 have graduated from various schools. Special efforts have been made at all school levels to strengthen the teaching of the Tibetan language and the preservation of Tibet's cultural heritage.

In the 1950s, except for a few lamas who had gone back to secular life, there were almost no native Tibetan teachers. Today there are some 11,000, and they are the

main force in the region's educational system.

**Medical Care:** The Tibetan Autonomous Region has 800 hospitals and clinics, some 500 of them at county level or below. There are about 6,600 full-time medical workers, plus a large number of barefoot doctors. After a period in which the practice of traditional Tibetan medicine was discouraged, research in this area is growing, and traditional Tibetan doctors are encouraged to pass on their knowledge to young successors. The development of a comprehensive health care system has meant that Tibetans can get timely, free medical care when they need it — a complete reversal of the situation existing before liberation.

**Minority Leadership:** As of March 1981, there were 36,900 cadres of minority nationality

holding leadership positions at the commune level and above. They made up 60.3 percent of the total number of cadres of the region. The highest government bodies in all of the region's six districts and municipalities include Tibetans. Of the region's 75 counties, 68 have Tibetan or other minority nationality cadres in top governmental positions.

Recent efforts have placed more responsibility for Tibetan affairs in the hands of local people. Forty-two of the minority nationality cadres at the district or municipal levels were promoted to their present positions within the past year, and they constitute 56 percent of the total new cadres at those levels. There are 284 new county-level cadres of minority nationality or 67.14 percent of the total new cadres at that level. □

Cars and trucks on modern highways cover in hours distances that once took days or weeks of travel on foot.

Kang Song



Yang Chan (right), the democratically-elected head of Quxu county, consults with commune members.

Kang Song





# Soong Ching Ling on Sun Yat-sen

## —From Her Speeches and Statements

**T**ODAY we are celebrating the 90th anniversary of the birth of Sun Yat-sen, great revolutionary son of the Chinese people. His name and achievements are honored in our ranks because for forty years he gave his utmost strength to the people's revolution. His name and achievements have been preserved in our hearts and minds because he gave his all so that China might throw off the blinders of feudal superstition and the shackles of economic backwardness and imperialism. Because of his selfless devotion to this cause, his name and achievements have served as an inspiration for the entire nation as we go forward to complete the task which he did not have time to finish.

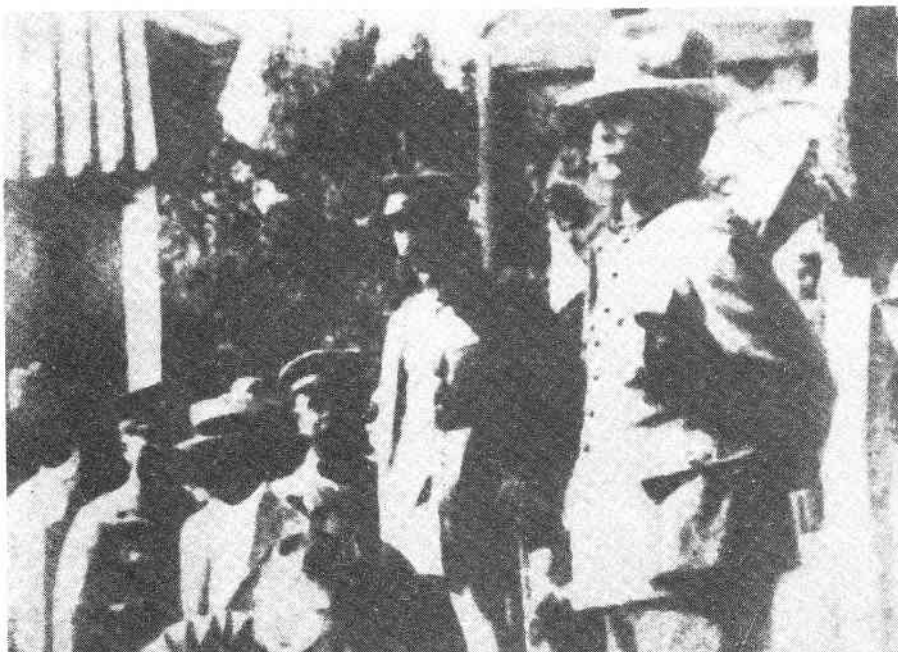
Sun Yat-sen was a great revolutionary because his was an undaunted spirit. In his "Account of the Chinese Revolution" he wrote: "If a man with a foreknowledge and keen preception of things resolves to accomplish something which conforms to nature, responds to human feelings, agrees with the trend in world affairs and serves the urgent needs of the community, he is bound to succeed."

**Sun Yat-sen — Great Revolutionary Son of the Chinese People, November 4, 1956**

**S**UN YAT-SEN had begun his revolutionary activities from the simple premise of saving the motherland. His travels about the world had a double purpose: to search for the most advanced ideas; and to induce the Chinese students and overseas Chinese to join his movement. In 1896-1899, Sun Yat-sen visited all the main European capitals. From the reminiscences of some of those who heard him speak, we know he understood quite well the forces at work in a world where imperialism had become the most vicious enemy of all the peoples, and of the era when the working class was assuming the leading position in revolutionary movements. Sun Yat-sen knew of Karl Marx and Frederick Engels and their work, and he had already heard of Lenin and the revolutionary movement in Russia. Those who listened to his lectures remember that he frequently predicted that socialism would succeed capitalism in the 20th century. He predicted then that Lenin would succeed in this in Russia before he himself would in China, although he felt that it would not take long to topple the decrepit Qing dynasty.

**Sun Yat-sen and His Co-operation with the Chinese Communist Party, November 12, 1962**

Sun Yat-sen in September at a rally in Guangdong province before sending his troops north against the northern warlords.



Sun Yat-sen (head of table) entertains Soviet personnel in China.



**T**HE OVERTHROW of the Qing dynasty was the most remarkable achievement of the 1911 Revolution. Its significance was tremendous, for China became, at least in form, the first republic in Asia and, in a country involving one-fifth of the world's population, had smashed the autocratic political system. This was really a milestone in the advance of world history. However, a real and absolutely democratic government had not been achieved, so our revolution still could not be considered a success. After the overthrow of the Qing dynasty, it was impossible to set up a government which could carry out Sun Yat-sen's Three People's Principles, and the forces of the revolutionary party suffered seriously at the hands of the well-known bureaucrat-warlord Yuan Shikai . . . .

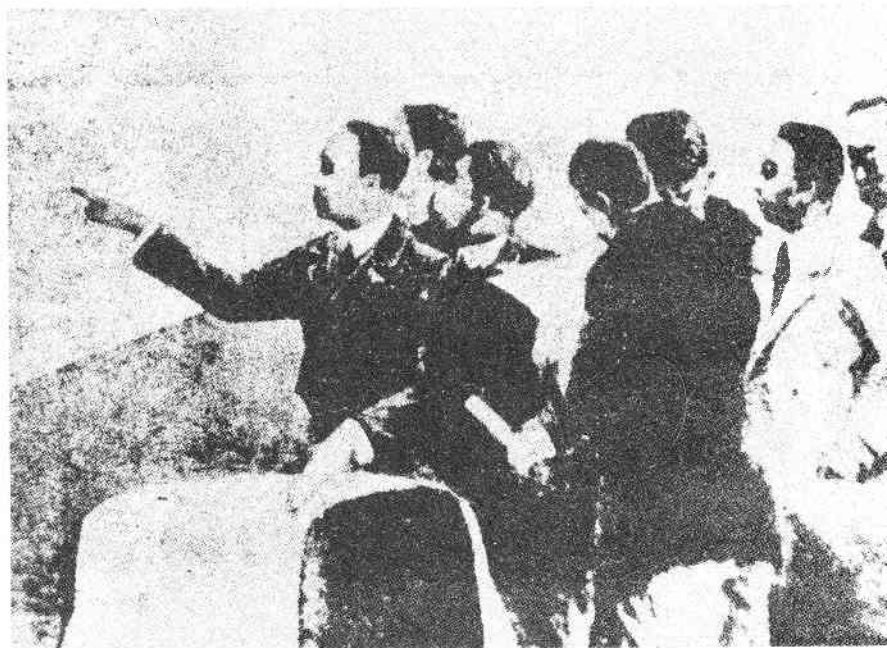
The weakest point of China's revolution during and after the 1911 Revolution was that it failed to understand Sun Yat-sen's idea about national independence and could not represent the real will of the whole nation. The nationalism, democracy and people's livelihood in the Three People's Principles are the essence of Sun Yat-sen's thought. It was the unanimous demand of the whole Chinese people to seek equality internationally, politically and economically. Sun Yat-sen held that the three principles were linked to one another and formed an inseparable part of his goal in saving China. . . .

In his speech to the members of the Kuomintang on August 10, 1924, Sun Yat-sen pointed out their mistakes in the 1911 Revolution. He said those mistakes deserved recounting because our aim of establishing a truly independent China had not been accomplished. He said that as early as 1904, many of the later members of the Kuomintang had favored his Three People's Principles. But by 1911 they had



Dr. Sun Yat-sen in Paris, 1909.

Sun Yat-sen outlines strategy for an armed uprising.





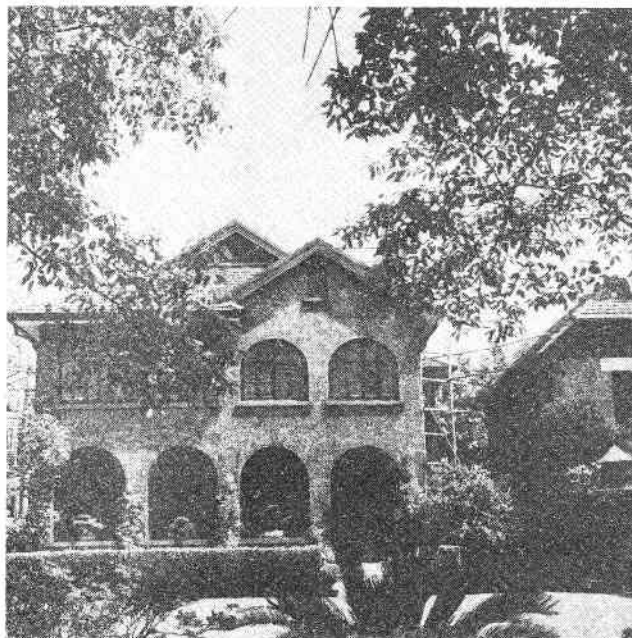
attached importance only to nationalism and had narrowed the interpretation of nationalism to mean the overthrow of the rule of the Manchus as their sole purpose. They even thought that there was no reason why a Han emperor could not be put on the throne after the Qing dynasty was overthrown. Sun Yat-sen severely criticized them, pointing out that they did not understand the real meaning of democracy and only paid lip service to it.

**Achieving True Independence in China,  
November 11, 1939**

**I**T WAS Sun Yat-sen's determined desire for progress that in the final period of his life enabled him to appreciate the lessons of the October Socialist Revolution in Russia, to understand that the Chinese Communist Party and the working class were the most dynamic forces in the nation. Once he saw the truth, he acted without equivocation. He revised his old policies and principles. He declared his alliance with Soviet Russia. He welcomed the close cooperation of the Chinese Communist Party because it was of advantage to the revolution. He arrived at a more accurate conception of socialism. He tossed aside his quest for a bourgeois democratic republic because he had learned it could never be realized in a China beset by feudalism and imperialism. In its stead he put forth his new dream, that of a people's republic. Finally, he set down his slogan of "Land to Tillers" to solve the problems of the peasants, the goal toward which he had been striving those many decades.

**Sun Yat-sen — Great Revolutionary Son  
of the Chinese People**

The former residence of Sun Yat-sen in Shanghai.



**T**HROUGHOUT his life Sun Yat-sen advocated the principle of joint struggle for the existence of China. That is why he held that the Kuomintang and Communists should work together. The Communist Party is a party which stands for the interests of the working classes, both industrial and agricultural. Sun realized that without the keen support and cooperation of these classes, the mission of completing the national revolution could not easily be carried out. If the cooperation with the Chinese Communist Party, which he advocated, had continued uninterruptedly until the present time, China would by now have been a free and independent power. Past events are a good lesson. During the present crisis, all former differences should be forgotten. The whole nation must join together in opposing Japanese aggression and fighting for the final victory.

**Statement on the Reconciliation, November  
1937**

**S**UN YAT-SEN had no property. He devoted all the energies of a lifetime to the Chinese revolution. What he left us to remember him by were only his books and a former residence. These simple things may help later generations know something about his life and understand his unswerving determination in the struggle for the Chinese people to master their own destiny.

**Foreword to the photograph album Dr. Sun  
Yat-sen's Former Residence in Shanghai,  
October 1957**

**A**LTHOUGH in his lifetime he was not able to see his dream of a great China on the world stage, he never doubted for one moment that this would be the final result of all his efforts. The Chinese Communist Party picked up his tasks, and after further years of hard and difficult struggle led the Chinese people to their triumph in revolution, and on to the construction of a socialist state. Sun Yat-sen's dream has materialized. It has been fulfilled in every way.

But Sun Yat-sen left us more than a dream. He left us what the great Lenin described in a letter to him as "continuous zeal" for the revolutionary cause. I want especially to say to our young people, upon whom so much depends in this new phase of the struggle: Learn from Sun Yat-sen! Imbibe his continuous zeal, study his demand for constant progress, emulate his lack of subjectiveness, his humbleness and his closeness to the people. Make these characteristic part of your own make-up. With these you can surely go forward to build a great socialist China.

**Sun Yat-sen — Great Revolutionary Son  
of the Chinese People**

# == The 1911 Revolution ==

LI XIN

The 1911 Revolution which started with the Wuchang Uprising was the culmination of years of organizing and agitation by many people, of whom Sun Yat-sen was most prominent. Sun Yat-sen had begun by petitioning for reform. After the defeat of Chinese troops by Japanese aggressors in the Sino-Japanese War of 1894, Sun was shocked to see the Qing court unmoved, and instead, burying themselves with ceremonial songs and dances and building the Summer Palace to celebrate the 60th birthday of the Empress Dowager Ci Xi. Deciding that the only way was to overthrow the Qing regime, he set up China's first bourgeois revolutionary organization, the Xingzhonghui (Revive China Society) in Hawaii in 1894.

The Qing court was thoroughly discredited after the suppression of the Boxer Uprising for giving in to the demands of various imperialist powers, leasing away ports, sections of the country, and customs and other tax rights. China's fledgling national capitalist industry was suffering from foreign competition. Sun Yat-sen's idea of a democratic revolution began to be received with sympathy by the new bourgeois class.

Sun, in exile since an unsuccessful attempt in summer 1895 to seize the Qing government headquarters in Guangzhou (Canton) as a base for revolution, traveled to all parts of the world where there were Chinese communities and where young Chinese men and women were studying. He and his followers gathered funds, hammered out a program, set up clubs and newspapers, bought and shipped arms. They directed students returning home into various forms of underground work,

including the penetration of the army and the administration. Revolutionary societies and underground newspapers were set up in several provinces.

In 1905 in Japan Sun Yat-sen united these various groups into the Tongmenghui (Revolutionary League) with a program: Overthrow the Qing dynasty, regenerate China, establish a republic and equalize land ownership. He later summarized these points in this Three People's Principles: Nationalism, Democracy, and the People's Livelihood. The Tongmenghui's aim was to establish an independent, prosperous Chinese republic.

Before the revolution reached fruition following the Wuchang Uprising, Sun Yat-sen and his comrades, often with help from workers, peasants and others in the secret societies, were to lead a total of 10 abortive armed uprisings in Guangdong province and along the border. There were some large revolts, including one in 1906 involving starving miners at the Anyuan coalfield in Jiangxi province and peasants in nearby Liuyang and Liling counties in Hunan.

A large uprising and revolt of troops in the Qing army, again to seize Guangzhou as a base, took place on April 27, 1911. It too failed and 72 of those who died in it are buried in a mass grave in Guangzhou's outskirts at Huanghuagang, which has given the event the name Huanghuagang Uprising.

There were also riots over the rising price of rice all through the Changjiang (Yangtze) River valley, with a large one at Changsha, capital of Hunan. Between the founding of the Tongmenghui and 1910 a total of 284 popular revolts took place.

**R**AILWAY rights was the issue that led to the uprising which set off the Revolution of 1911 in Wuchang (with Hankou and Hanyang making up the triple city of Wuhan on the Changjiang River). From 1905 on, in addition to foreign-financed railway development, various companies had been organized by Chinese capitalists to build lines. On May 9, 1911, the Qing dynasty government proclaimed "nationalization of the railways". Its intent was to take over these Chinese-operated companies and mortgage their railway rights for a loan from a consortium of American, British, French and German banks. The funds were ostensibly for railway building, but, as everyone knew, they would be used to shore up the tottering Qing regime and enrich its principals. It was also well known that railway rights in foreign hands would help the imperialist powers expand their spheres of influence, transport troops and control China's economic lifelines.

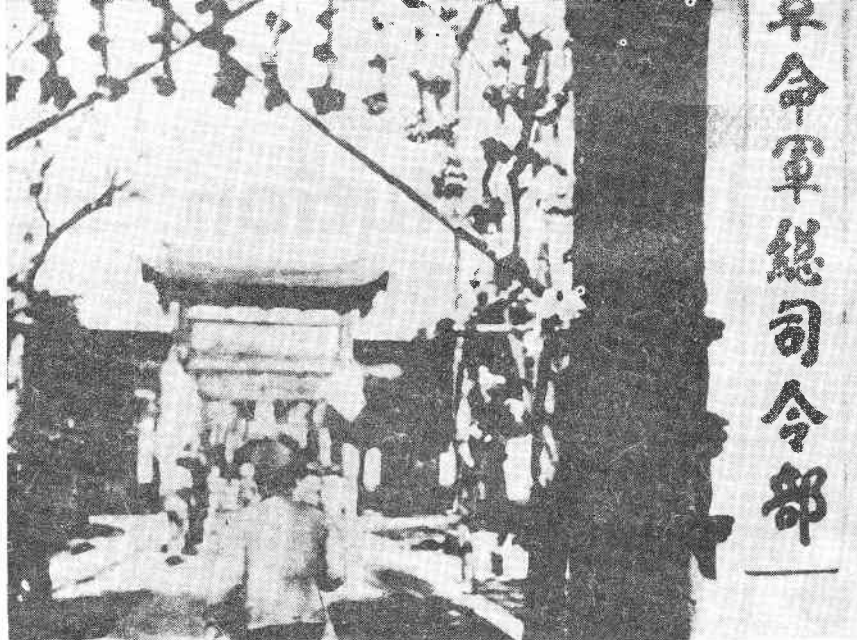
The gentry-merchants of Hunan held a protest meeting and distributed leaflets in Changsha asking that the order be rescinded, and students quit their classes to protest. Soon the movement to preserve railway rights had spread to Wuchang, Guangzhou, Chengdu and other cities in Hunan, Hubei, Sichuan and Guangdong.

The struggle was most bitter and widespread in Sichuan. On June 17, 1911, at a mass meeting in Chengdu, the Railway Protection League was formed. It soon had branches throughout the province. To suppress the protest the

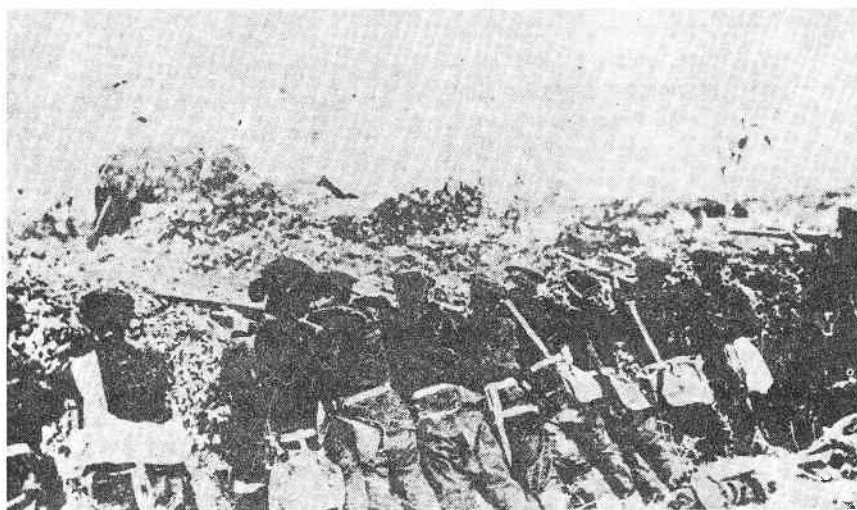
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LI XIN is vice-director of the Institute of Modern Chinese History of the Academy of Social Sciences.



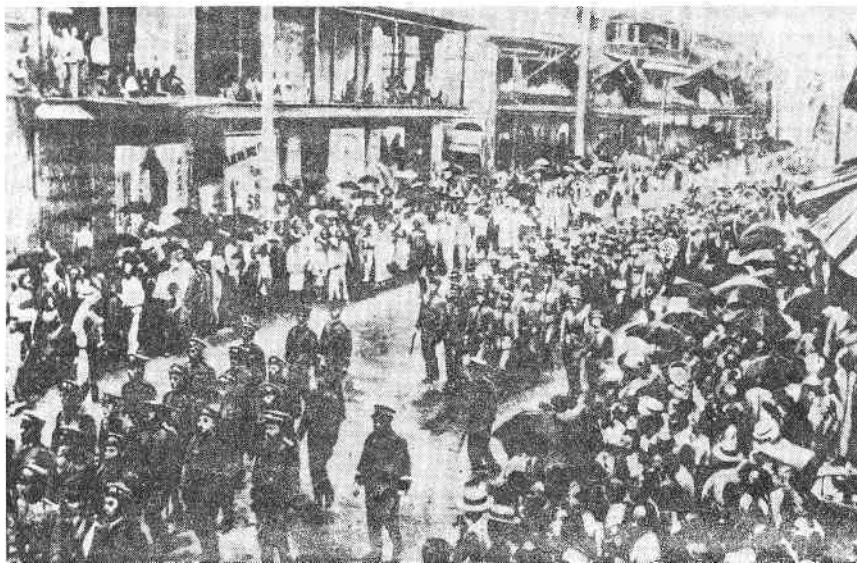


Headquarters of the Wuchang uprising army.



Revolutionary troops and people fight the Qing army in Hankou.

The Shanghai volunteer army during the 1911 Revolution.



Qing government appointed as Viceroy of Sichuan Zhao Erfeng, who in 1904 had gained the name of "butcher" for having slaughtered 3,000 Sichuan peasants who resisted paying taxes. It was like pouring oil on a fire. In the latter part of August, the government forcibly took over a section of the Sichuan-Hankou line. Sichuan exploded in protest. Merchants closed their shops and students left their schools. In September peasants in many places refused to turn in tax grain and pay other taxes. Leaders of the Tongmenghui contacted members of the Ge-laohui (Society of Elder Brothers), an anti-Manchu secret society, with the aim of preparing an armed uprising.

On September 7 Zhao Erfeng invited the two heads of the railway corporation to his office and had them arrested. Protesters rushed to his office to demand their release. He ordered his soldiers to open fire, killing 32 city residents and scores of peasants who had come from the outskirts to give them support. This became known as the Chengdu Massacre.

The Railway Protection Association had for some time been organizing armed units. Now these converged on Chengdu from all directions. Zhao Erfeng found himself helpless inside the city. The insurgents occupied several subprefectures and counties. On September 25 they declared Rongxian county independent and set up a revolutionary government.

### The Wuchang Uprising

The Qing government ordered Duan Fang to march into the province with Wuhan units from its New Army — so called because it used western-style guns instead of swords and spears as had other Manchu armies. This was actually a stroke of luck for the revolution. As early as 1904 revolutionary societies in Hubei province had been spreading their ideas and organizing among the troops. A third of the men in the New Army had joined them. In September, when part of the New Army troops departed for Sichuan, leaving the Wuhan garrison



Sun Yat-sen (fifth from left, front row) at his inauguration in Nanjing on January 1, 1912.

reduced, the two societies decided this was the time to seize Wuhan. The date was set for the Mid-Autumn Festival, falling that year on October 6. It was later moved to October 16. However, an accidental explosion on October 9 where they were making bombs in a house in Hankou's Russian concession gave the revolutionaries away. The order went out for the uprising to take place that very night, but before these could reach the basic units, the headquarters had been destroyed and many leaders arrested. Three were executed and the others were being hunted down.

The revolutionaries in the New Army decided to revolt and fight their way out. At 7 p.m., as those in a company of the 8th Engineering Battalion were making final preparations, their plan was discovered by a platoon leader. He was about to arrest Jin Zhaolong when the latter shouted, "Comrades, take action!" The soldiers killed some of the reactionary officers. At the sound of gunshots,

Xiong Bingkun of the same unit led the rebels to seize the government arsenal at Chuwangtai and other units revolted and joined them. They attacked the governor's headquarters, but Governor Rui Cheng fled to a gunboat in the river. The revolutionary troops occupied the compound and by the next morning, October 11, the entire city of Wuchang was in their hands.

The uprising had had initial success, but organizing a new government presented problems. The recognized leader of the movement, Dr. Sun Yat-sen, was still in the United States, and Huang Xing, his close associate, in Hongkong. Many other militant leaders had been arrested or had fled the search. The revolution could not proceed without a leader, so Li Yuanhong, a former regimental commander in the New Army was asked to be military governor and Tang Hualong, speaker of the provincial assembly, to head the administration of civil affairs. Li had never been in favor of revo-

lution, and on the eve of the uprising had executed many revolutionary leaders. During the fighting he had hid in a friend's house. He accepted with great reluctance. Tang had favored constitutional monarchy over revolution. While making them leaders of the revolution helped to win over many prominent figures, it also sowed the seeds of future disaster for the revolution.

Hanyang fell on October 11, Hankou on the 12th, and other cities in Hubei soon followed. The revolution spread to Hunan, Shaanxi, Jiangxi and other provinces. By the end of November, 15 of the total 24 provinces had declared their independence of the Qing rule.

#### Yuan Shikai Takes Over

To save themselves, the Qing officials brought back the military politician Yuan Shikai, who had been sent to "rest" because he had been getting so powerful as to be a threat to them. With a record



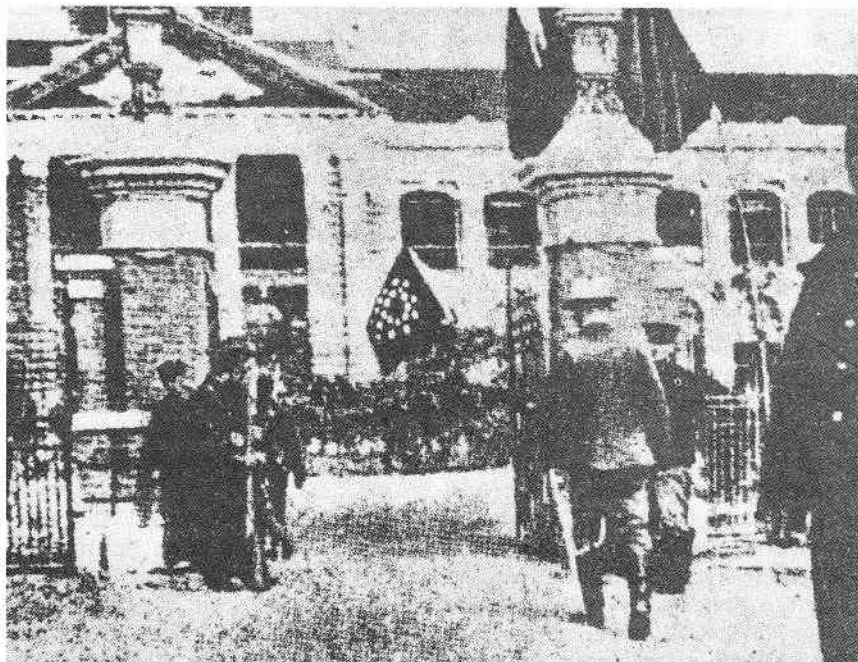


The flag of the Wuchang uprising forces.

of serving the landlords, comprador capitalists and big bourgeoisie and the imperialists, he had helped suppress the Reform Movement of 1898 and the Boxer Uprising, and was regarded by the imperialists as a "strong man" who would save their interests. On October 30, the Qing cabinet dissolved itself and appointed Yuan prime minister to organize a new one.

Meanwhile, the revolutionary armies occupied Nanjing further

The flag with 18 stars, one for each of the 18 provinces which had declared their independence of Qing dynasty rule, hangs before the military government headquarters.



east on the river on December 2. On the 25th Sun Yat-sen arrived in Shanghai and was immediately elected Provisional President of the Republic of China by representatives of 17 provinces. On January 1, 1912, Sun took the oath of office and proclaimed the founding of the Republic of China. It marked the end of 267 years of Qing dynasty rule and 2,000 years of feudal monarchy in China.

The country was now under two different governments. In the peace talks it became clear that the imperialists backing Yuan would recognize the Republic and refrain from intervention only if he became president. Yielding to pressure from them and the feudal forces, to preserve the Republic, Sun Yat-sen resigned and his position as Provisional President was taken over by Yuan Shikai in March, 1912. Thus China fell into the hands of the northern warlords, of which Yuan was chief. China remained a semi-feudal, semi-colonial country.

#### Historical Significance

Although the revolution failed, it had tremendous historical sig-

nificance. It smashed the feudal monarchy and made China a republic, at least in name.

The program of the Revolutionary League and Sun Yat-sen's Three People's Principles helped awaken the Chinese people from their slumber. The 1911 Revolution implanted the idea of a democratic republic in their minds. When Yuan Shikai in 1915 attempted to make himself emperor and the warlord Zhang Xun put back on the throne Pu Yi, the abdicated boy emperor in 1917, the people would not have it.

One reason the revolution failed is that bourgeois elements in the Kuomintang (into which Sun Yat-sen's Tongmenghui was reorganized) did not wish to mobilize the masses of the peasants and even suppressed their struggle (the constitution of the republic did not mention Sun Yat-sen's principle of equalization of land), and without participation of the peasantry, a bourgeois-democratic revolution could not succeed.

Failure of the revolution demonstrated that in semi-feudal, semi-colonial China the bourgeoisie could not lead a democratic revolution to victory. Sun Yat-sen sensed this and later on began to turn to the October Revolution in Soviet Russia as an example. He propounded Three Major Policies for the Kuomintang Party: Alliance with Soviet Russia; alliance with the Chinese Communist Party; support for the workers' and peasants' movement.

What has the 1911 Revolution to teach us today? The fighting spirit of those early revolutionaries and Sun Yat-sen's spirit of going forward with the times are examples for us still. Now the new democratic revolution has long been won. China is striving to build a strong, modernized socialist country. Every patriotic person inspired by the spirit of the 1911 Revolution and the ideals for which Sun Yat-sen fought ought surely to be able to find ways to contribute his part to building a unified and prosperous China. □

An article "Sun Yat-sen's Role in the 1911 Revolution" will appear in our next issue.

# Sun Yat-sen's Friendship with Communist Li Dazhao

WANG SHIHAN



Li Dazhao (left) and Sun Yat-sen coming out of Kuomintang's First National Congress at Guangzhou, January 1924.

**S**UN YAT-SEN'S friendship with Li Dazhao (1889-1927), a pioneer Marxist in China and a founder of the Chinese Communist Party, had an important influence on his thinking and on the Chinese revolution.

Early in his career Li had participated in activities of revolutionary organizations led by Sun. The two had met personally at least as early as 1919. Sun already had great admiration for the October Revolution in the Soviet Union and was searching for a way out for a China in which the main contradiction was with imperialism. It was Li Dazhao who in the city of Guilin introduced him to Maring, the representative of the Communist International in China in August or September

of 1921. On December 23, 1921, Maring had a long discussion with Sun and made two suggestions for the Chinese revolution to which Sun agreed. They were: the necessity of a political party that would unite all classes and individuals willing to oppose imperialism and feudalism; and the creation of a nucleus for a revolutionary armed force by setting up an officers' training school.

Li and Sun met again on August 23, 1922, in Shanghai. They were so engrossed in their conversation on how to build a new China that they nearly forgot to have dinner. On August 25, Li Dazhao introduced Adolf Joffe, a Soviet diplomat, to Sun. On January 26, 1923, Sun and Joffe issued a joint statement in which they said: "China's paramount and most pressing problem is to achieve national unification and attain full national independence; and re-

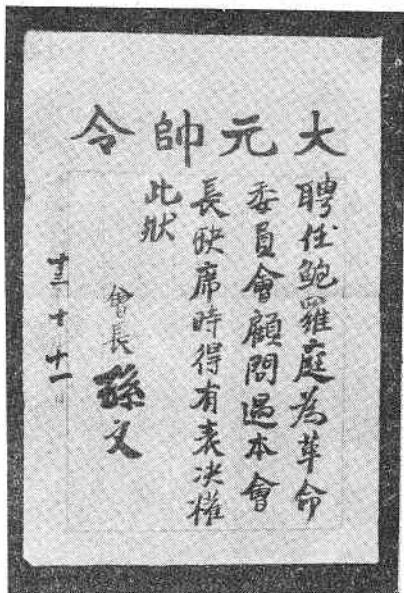
garding this event he (Joffe) has assured Dr. Sun Yat-sen that China has the warmest sympathy of the Russian people and can count on the support of Russia."

## Two-Party Cooperation

The Communist Party, which since its formation in July 1921 had been extremely active leading workers' struggles, had come to realize that in order to succeed, China's young working class needed to have a broad alliance with other classes which opposed imperialism and feudalism. Its third national congress in June 1923 voted to work for a revolutionary united front with Sun Yat-sen's Kuomintang Party. Communist Party members would be permitted to join the Kuomintang as individuals. During this congress Li Dazhao had long discussions with Sun Yat-sen on how to form

WANG SHIHAN is assistant curator of the Chinese History Museum in Beijing.





Letter from Sun Yat-sen inviting Michael Borodin to be his adviser.

this united front, and on foreign policy.

In October at Sun Yat-sen's invitation Michael Borodin arrived from the Soviet Union to be his political adviser, stopping on the way in Beijing to meet with Li Dazhao.

In January 1924 the Kuomintang held its first national congress in Guangzhou. Sun Yat-sen selected Li to be the only Communist on the five-man presidium and to be on committees to draft a manifesto, a constitution for the Kuomintang and do publications and publicity for the congress. Of course the more Right-wing members of the Kuomintang opposed cooperation with the Communists. Li reassured them that Communists participating in the Kuomintang as individuals while maintaining their Communist Party membership was only to be able to contribute to the nationalist revolution. At the congress Li Dazhao was elected a member of the Kuomintang Central Executive Committee.

Under this cooperation the jointly-run Whampoa Military Academy was set up in Guangzhou and a joint armed force began the Northern Expedition march against the imperialist-backed warlords in the north. It

mobilized the masses of the people in a vast revolutionary upsurge until, taking fright at it, in April 1927 Chiang Kai-shek, at the behest of the big landlords and imperialist-backed big bourgeoisie in the Kuomintang, turned against the revolution and began a white terror against Communist and others. Li Dazhao, then a professor at Beijing University, was arrested by the warlord Zhang Zuolin and executed at the age of 38.

### Li Dazhao's Growth

Sun Yat-sen the revolutionary democrat, and Li Dazhao, who became a leading Communist, both began their interest in politics seeking a way to save the country — already semi-colonial — from total economic control and submission to foreign imperialist powers and the warlords who served them.

As a student at the Tianjin Political Science and Law School between 1907 and 1913, Li Dazhao had been influenced by his association with Bai Yuyu, a teacher of history and geography and a leading member of the Tianjin-Beijing-Baoding branch of Sun Yat-sen's Tongmenghui (Revive China Society). Bai was arrested in an uprising attempted by the Tongmenghui. As he was taken to be executed he refused to kneel down and shouted, "Fight to the end for a republic!"

Deeply moved by the 1911 Revolution, Li Dazhao hated the corrupt Qing dynasty and the subsequent northern warlord government under Yuan Shikai, and placed his hope in the revolutionary struggle led by Sun Yat-sen.

In the summer of 1913 Sun Yat-sen attempted a "second revolution", an armed revolt to overthrow Yuan Shikai, which was unsuccessful. The future for political activity looked hopeless. Li Dazhao went to Japan to enroll in political economy courses at Waseda University. During his three years in Japan he studied Marxism and other socialist theory. 'In exile again after the 1913 revolt, in Japan Sun Yat-sen

had set up a secret organization to fight Yuan Shikai, and Li Dazhao took part in its activities.

When Dr. Frank Goodnow, an American who was adviser to Yuan, tried to create public opinion for Yuan's becoming emperor, Li Dazhao wrote angry articles refuting him. He charged that Yuan had agreed to the Japanese government's secret note of "Twenty-one Demands", selling out China's territory and sovereignty, because he was counting on Japanese backing to make him emperor. Li Dazhao called on his countrymen to fight.

The situation plunged young people with patriotic feeling into a mood of pessimism, some even to the point of suicide. Li Dazhao, however, saw things otherwise. In his well-known essay "Spring-time" he spoke of the eternal cycle of nature, always changing and renewing: life and death, prosperity and decline, youth and age — thus an infinite spring. Those who recognize this process of universal change can possess the spirit of youth or eternal spring and have unlimited hope, he said. China, though an old country beset by many problems, could have a rebirth, he said, calling on the young people to unceasingly struggle to create spring in their hearts, spring for their country, spring for their people.

### October Revolution Shows Way

Yet, after Yuan Shikai's betrayal, neither Li Dazhao nor Sun Yat-sen knew what direction to take to achieve their aim of saving China. Then in 1917 the October Revolution occurred in Russia. Li Dazhao became the first influential Chinese intellectual to speak in favor of the revolution. The effect of the October Revolution on him was to make him realize that "their struggle is a class struggle, a war launched by the world proletariat against the world capitalists."

Li Dazhao made the most systematic summary of Marxist theory up to that time in China in an article "My Marxist Views" in a special issue of the magazine *New*

Youth devoted to Marxism and edited by him appearing on May 1, 1919, the eve of the May Fourth Movement.

Because Li Dazhao understood the class nature of the October Revolution and had accepted the basics of the Marxist viewpoint, he could answer correctly the question of whether or not Marxism was suited to Chinese conditions. In a debate with the bourgeois reformer Hu Shi (1891-1962), Li Dazhao pointed out that a Marxist must try to apply theory in his own environment.

Li Dazhao's ability to relate Marxism to China's particular situation helped to make Marxism meaningful to the Chinese people and a force for national salvation.

### A Friend in Communism

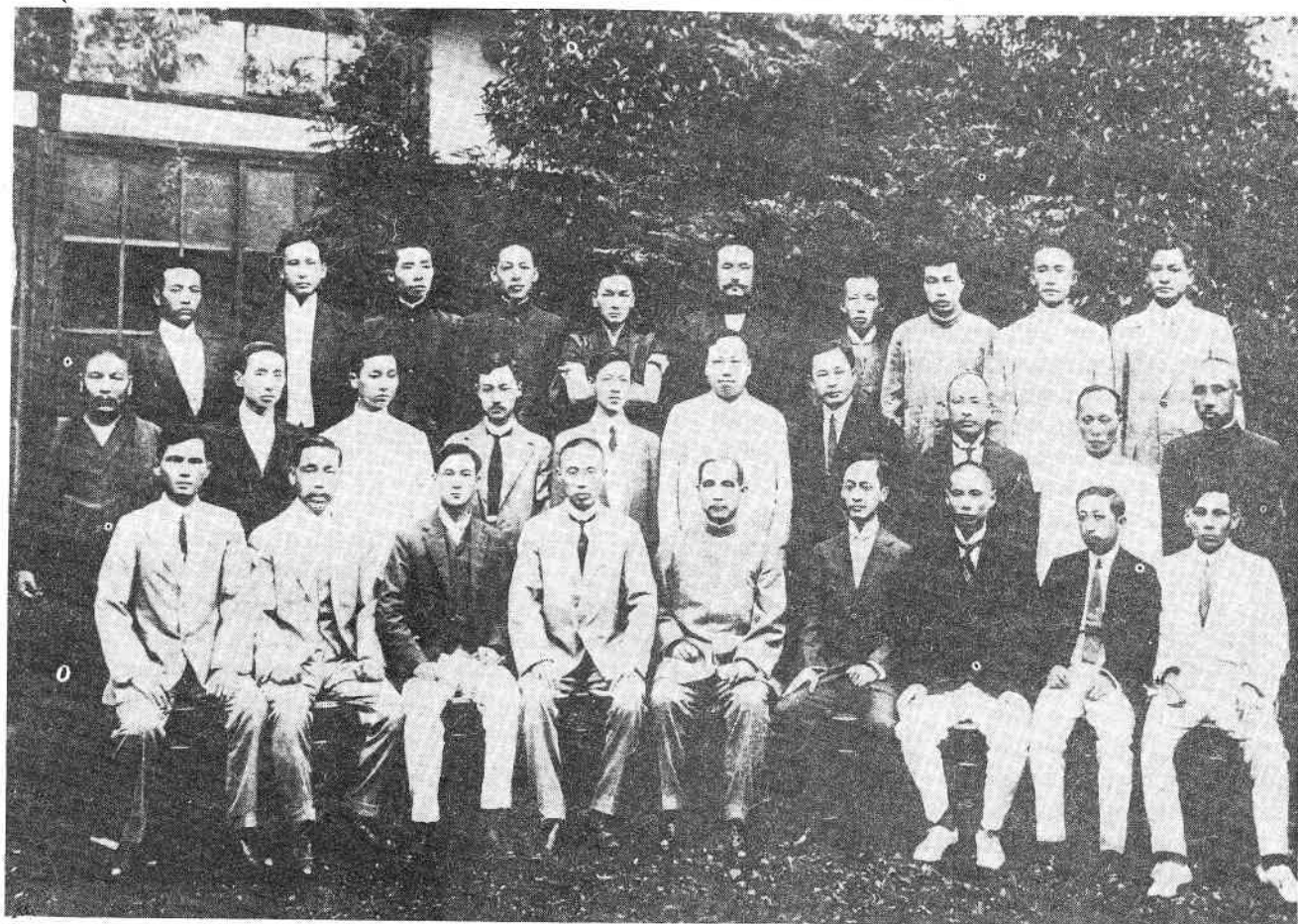
Sun Yat-sen had warmly welcomed the October Revolution and the founding of the Chinese Com-

munist Party. It pleased him very much, his wife Soong Ching Ling later recalled, "to see Marxism and the writings of Lenin being studied so assiduously. Sun Yat-sen had a warm respect and admiration for Li Dazhao, who was always welcome at our house. . . . Sun Yat-sen after seeing such guests, would often remark that he considered these people as his true revolutionary comrades. He knew he could count on the clarity of their thought and their unflinching courage in battle." In a lecture on his principle of the people's welfare in 1924, he stated, "Communism is the good friend of the Three People's Principles."

The friendship between Sun Yat-sen and Li Dazhao was the product of the historical times in which they lived, including such events as the failure of the 1911 Revolution, the upsurge of the May 4th Movement and the found-

ing of the Chinese Communist Party. In 1924, with help from the Chinese Communist Party, he reorganized the Kuomintang and brought about the first united front between the Kuomintang and Communist Party. He adopted the three major policies (alliance with the Soviet Union, cooperation with the Communist Party, and help to the workers and peasants). With these he reinterpreted the old Three People's Principles into new ones. He realized that in his forty years experience, it was only after he had found a good friend in communism that he began to see imperialism as the main obstacle on the road of China's struggle for independence, democracy and freedom; to see the strength of the masses; and to see the necessity of uniting with all the oppressed nations and people in the struggle. □

Sun Yat-sen in 1914 with members of the Chinese Revolutionary Party he founded in Tokyo.



# The Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall in Guangzhou

XIAO QING

FROM the foot of beautiful Yue-xiu Hill in the city of Guangzhou (Canton) rises an imposing structure — the Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall. Built half a century ago with funds donated by the people of Guangzhou and by overseas Chinese, this memorial to the deeply loved Dr. Sun has been refurbished in time for the 70th anniversary of the 1911 Revolution which he led. Under the double-eaved roof hangs a sign bearing the words which governed his life: "Everything for the Public Weal." As he cherished the welfare of the Chinese people, so Chinese people everywhere cherish his memory. The history of his memorial hall signifies perfectly Dr. Sun's continuing importance in Chinese eyes.

## Revolutionary Design for a Revolutionary Hero

The building was designed in 1928 by Lü Yanzhi, a 32-year-old Chinese architect who had studied abroad, and whose plan for Nanjing's Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum had won top prize in a design competition. Lü's design for the Memorial Hall boldly combined the strong points of modern Western architecture with traditional Chinese styles. But Lü himself fell ill and died in May 1929, leaving only a draft blueprint. The work was completed by a schoolmate, Li Jinpei, to whom Lü had entrusted the project. Construction began in the spring of 1931. Completed, the building attracted immediate attention both in China and abroad for its innovative architecture. It remains one of China's most beautiful and popular memorial structures, and at the same time an au-

ditorium used year round for large meetings, cultural performances, and the like.

The main hall is an unusual one, with a seating capacity of 4,700 on two levels and an area of 8,700 square meters. The stage at the north end of the chamber can seat more than 100 people. At the center of the multicolored beamed ceiling is a rich octagonal mosaic design. The three exits on three sides of the hall connect with a circular corridor. With eleven gates, an audience of thousands can clear the hall within five minutes.

Perhaps most striking in such a big hall, no single support pillar is visible. In fact, eight pillars hidden inside the walls support four 30-meter steel braces. These in turn support the eight braces sustaining the eight-meter balcony, which seems to float in space.

## Rare Materials, Fine Art

Steps of white granite lead up to the building's white platform. Walls are of light-green marble below, with cream-colored brick above. Terrazzo beams in traditional patterns, pillars of purple rock, and roofs of glazed blue tile add richness and variety. The building is topped by an octagonal pavilion with a double-eaved roof at front and back and a sloping roof at either side. Lit by the sun, the golden cone-shaped roof dazzles the eye.

The Memorial suffered considerable damage during the war years of the 1930s and 40s. After liberation, the government allocated large sums to restore it. Glazed tiles and arched ceiling were du-

plicated, most of the old tiles replaced, and the steel braces reinforced. New building materials improved the acoustics of the hall, and vinyl-covered chairs replace the old seating. A sloping wooden floor appeared in place of the old flat floor, and the stage was lowered to improve audience sightlines. An orchestra pit and dressing rooms were added. Air conditioning now cools the hall in summer, and heaters warm it in winter.

## A Courtyard Green and Fragrant

Pine, cypress and kapok trees surround the 0.6-hectare courtyard. On the lawn, orchids and sweet-scented osmanthus bushes bear delicate white blossoms. Two stone columns carved with designs of clouds and cranes stand in front of the building. Alone at the center of the courtyard, a delicately carved sculpture of Sun Yat-sen on a base of white granite adds to the dignity and serenity of the grounds. From the hillside above, the monument to Dr. Sun looks down on the Memorial Hall.

## Dr. Sun's Legacy

"Build a prosperous, independent China" — Sun Yat-sen's dying words — appear in bold letters on the wall at the back of the stage of the main hall. Visitors who come to pay their respects to the memory of this great revolutionary cannot help but be reminded that the tasks to which he devoted his life remain unfinished. Go, the Memorial seems to say, and do *your* part in the great effort to modernize and reunify the motherland. □

CHINA RECONSTRUCTS





The Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall in Guangzhou.



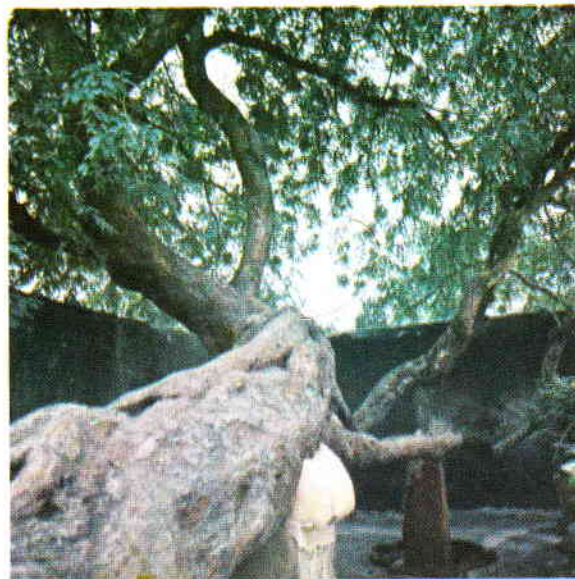


The birthplace and early home of Dr. Sun Yat-sen in Cuiheng village, Guangdong province.

Living room of the Cuiheng home.



The tree planted by Dr. Sun Yat-sen.



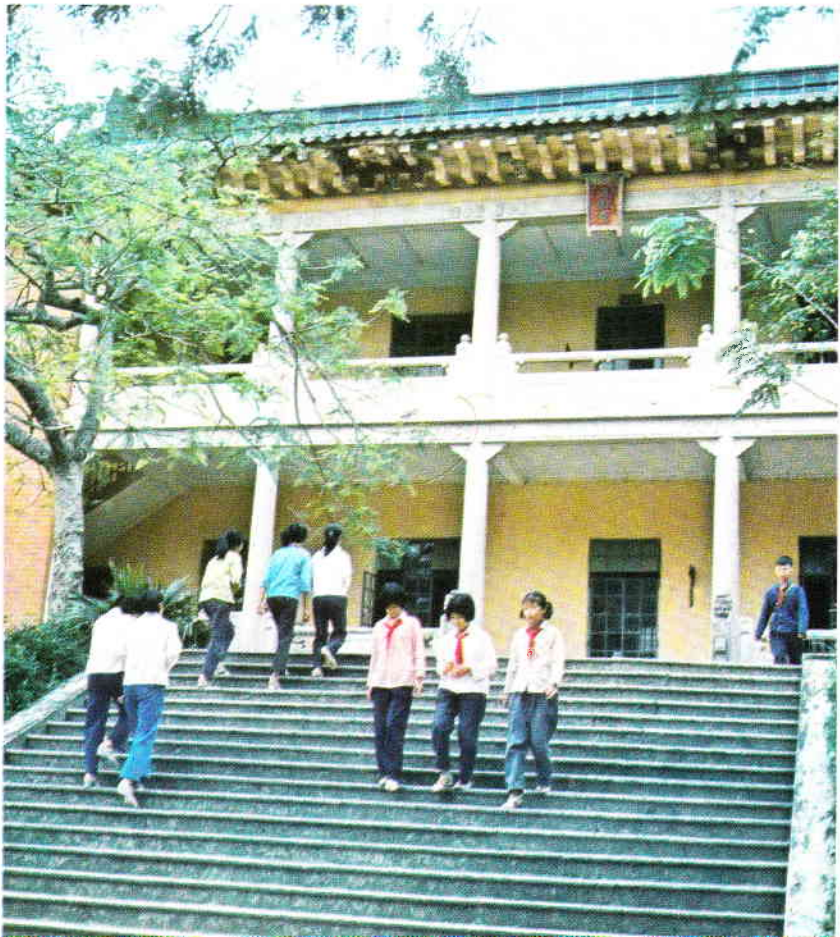


Main hall of the Cuiheng home.



Sun Yat-sen Memorial Middle School.

Soong Ching Ling Hall in Sun Yat-sen Memorial Middle School.



The river from which Dr. Sun Yat-sen once fetched water.







Young Pioneers pay tribute in front of Mausoleum of the 72 Martyrs at Huanghuagang, Guangzhou.

*Photos by Zhou Youma*

# How Barefoot Doctors Are Trained

XIMEN LUSHA

THE three-tiered medical and health network in the Chinese countryside consists of clinics in the production brigades, and hospitals at the commune and county levels. The intermediate-level hospitals run by the communes are treatment centers. But they also organize and give technical guidance to health work at the grass-roots level and at the same time provide training for barefoot doctors.

## In a Commune Hospital

The hospital at the Guoxi commune in Shandong province's Yexian county consists of four neat redbrick buildings. Flower beds around them contribute to a quiet, restful atmosphere.

"Our hospital is small, but we've got a complete range of facilities," remarked Zhang Deyi, director of the hospital, as he welcomed our party—I was with members of the county bureau of health. He first took us to the building which housed the in-patients section. In addition to wards, there were in this building an operating room, a room for electrocardiography and ultrasonics, a therapy room and a ward duty office. In the offices for medical personnel several young doctors and nurses were filling out case histories on metal clip-boards. From the charts on the walls I gathered that among the in-patients were cases of cerebral hemorrhage, high blood pressure, appendicitis, cardiopul-

monary diseases, rheumatic heart disease and acute gastritis.

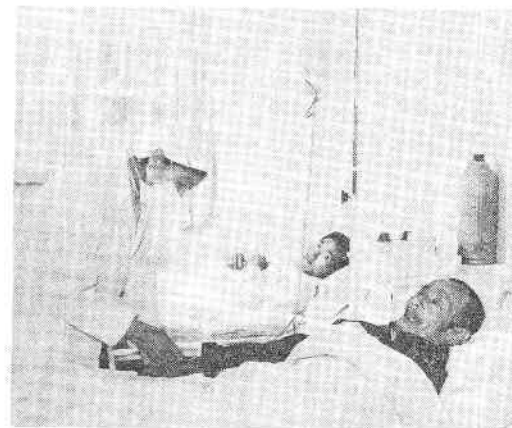
Another building housed the out-patient section, with departments of internal medicine, surgery, dentistry, gynecology, radiology and laboratory analysis.

Most of the patients I saw in both sections were peasants. The hospital serves the 26,000 members of the commune's 23 production brigades. It has a staff of 37, of whom four had graduated from medical colleges and 16 from secondary medical school. The 20-bed hospital treats an average of 137 out-patients a day. It can perform surgery of the lower abdomen and certain operations on the upper abdomen, as for instance simple gastrectomies.

In-patients pay for their food, but may apply to their units for reimbursement of all other expenses up to 80 yuan. Anything in excess of 80 yuan they pay themselves, but since the fee for a gastrectomy, involving excision of a major part of the stomach, is only 17 yuan here, 80 yuan covers just about everything.

Of course, the hospital does not come up to urban and county hospital standards of specialized personnel and range of equipment. Nevertheless it is fairly well equipped if one compares it with the backward medical and health facilities found previously in the Chinese countryside, and it plays an important part in improving rural health care.

The Yexian county hospital, for instance, has 180 beds, roughly 200



Infusion for a patient in the commune's 17-bed clinic.



Barefoot doctor students practice acupuncture on each other.



The clinic's operating room.

XIMEN LUSHA is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.





Learning to identify herbs used in Chinese traditional medicine is part of the training.

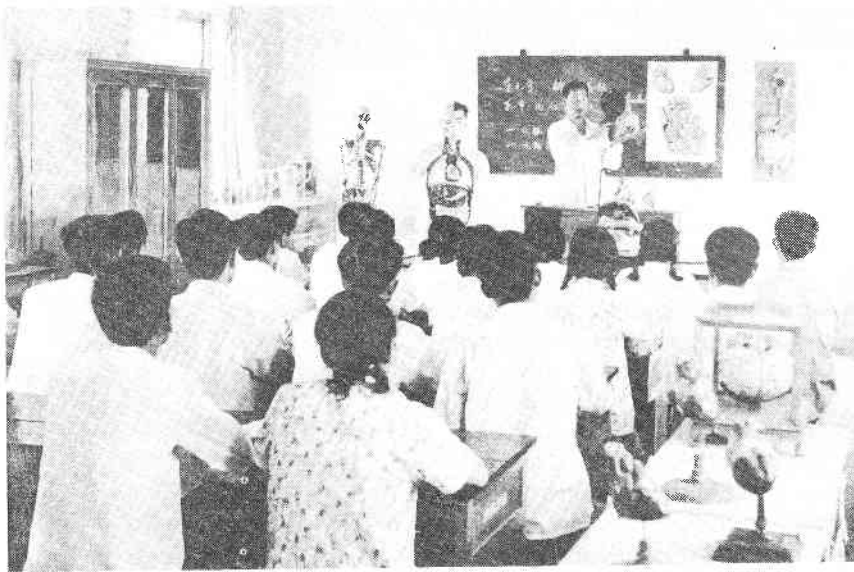
The commune hospital has many other duties in addition to giving medical treatment. Preventive medicine needs to be developed in the countryside—improving the sources of drinking water, waste disposal, extermination of flies, mosquitoes and other harmful insects, etc. And then there is the promotion of maternal and child health, family planning, and the system of cooperative medicine—all closely related to the welfare of the peasants. But success in any of these undertakings depends on the active participation of the broad masses of peasants, and an important part of the commune's daily work consists in mobilizing and organizing the peasants and giving them technical guidance. The hospital's "social health group", six technicians with training in health work and disease prevention, does this work. Hard-working and conscientious, they spend most of their time at the grass-roots level.

#### Training Barefoot Doctors

There are 2,212 barefoot doctors in Yexian county's rural areas, 1,116 of them women. This averages out at one barefoot doctor per 378 rural inhabitants. They are trained by the commune hospital.

Most of the barefoot doctors have a junior middle-school education; some of them have gone through senior middle school. Their coursework is followed by a period of clinical practice and, later on, refresher courses. A new barefoot doctor usually spends three to six months in a training class run by a county hospital, learning some of the basics of medicine, treatment and prevention of diseases commonly seen in the countryside, and first-aid. They are then sent in rotation to the commune hospital for a spell of practical training. The hospital also helps them improve their skills by setting up follow-up and specialized courses on such subjects as maternal and child health, acupuncture and massage, and disease-prevention.

In 1974, Yexian county set up a school for advanced training of



Physiology class at the county school for advanced medical training.

*Photos by Sun Xiangqing*

staff members, and can do operations on the urinary tract and the thorax in addition to ordinary surgical cases. But the county has a population of 830,000, of whom 95 percent are peasants living in the 1,010 production brigades of the county's 27 people's communes. Although in 1970 or thereabouts all the brigades set up their own clinics and acquired a few barefoot doctors, there were many

illnesses the latter could not deal with. If they referred all the cases they could not treat to the county health authorities, even two or three more hospitals like the one already in existence would have been unable to cope with them all. Now, the commune hospital handles most of the cases the brigade clinics send out for treatment.



barefoot doctors and, as the need arises, specialized personnel in nursing, pharmacy and disease-prevention. This school is situated at the Dayuan commune, not far from the county seat. Four new brick buildings house large, well-lit classrooms, among them one each for demonstrations in basic theory, clinical medicine, and Chinese herbal medicine. There are also a library and dormitories. The basic theory classroom is equipped with anatomical specimens, 20 microscopes and other instruments. The anatomical specimens, made by the students themselves from a corpse contributed by a secondary health school in the province, saved the Dayuan school a good deal in teaching funds.

We sat in on a pathology class studying bacterial dysentery. The teacher explained in detail the cause, mode of transmission and pathological changes in different types of bacterial dysentery. All the students were in their twenties; ten of them were women. They listened attentively, taking notes all the while. Their desks were filled with textbooks on physiology, parasitology, microbiology, basic diagnostics, and basic theory of Chinese traditional medicine.

According to vice-director Ji Yongzhong, most of the 53 students had already had several years of experience as barefoot doctors. There is also a two-year course for nurses and a one-year course for nursing assistants, with 40 and 41 students respectively. Students in the barefoot doctors' class spend the last three months of the course doing clinical work at the county or commune hospital. At graduation they are supposed to have attained the level of a graduate of a secondary health school. The school now has 14 teachers, five of them graduates from medical colleges. In addition, several veteran doctors and nurses teach part-time.

The school was organized to meet a pressing need. Director Sun of the county health bureau pointed out that if the commune hos-

pitals alone had been required to train all of the county's barefoot doctors, they could not possibly have met the demand as regards the number and quality of trainees. It would have cost 500 to 600 yuan to give each barefoot doctor a year of fairly systematic training. By this standard, Yexian county could barely train 100 barefoot doctors a year with the limited funds it had for education. And at that rate it would have taken more than 20 years to rotate all the county's barefoot doctors once through the training course.

### The Cut-Cost Way

"Circumstances forced us to look for a cheap and effective way of getting things done," said Director Sun. When the health school was first set up, it had no buildings. Classes were held in a meeting hall borrowed from an agricultural production brigade, and at night the students slept in commune members' homes. And so it was that the school got started

— at little cost to the county, and making do with whatever was available. It got its present buildings in 1977, and most of its teaching equipment since then.

Barefoot doctors are not government medical personnel and do not get salaries. They are paid by the production team in workpoints, according to the principle of equivalent work. The production team must give them their regular annual workpoints while they are studying at the school. In this period part of their expenses for food are borne by the production team, while the rest comes out of the county's funds for culture and education. The production teams are happy to send them to the school, despite the expense, since after a year's study they are much more useful to the team.

In its seven years, the school has run 18 training courses that have enrolled about 2700 people, including more than 2,000 barefoot doctors. The largest course for barefoot doctors had as many as ten classes going simultaneously. □

# 友

## SEE CHINA FOR YOURSELF!

In the interests of strengthening the ties of friendship and understanding between the people of China and English-speaking friends, the Society for Anglo-Chinese Understanding has been organising visits to the People's Republic of China since 1970. For 1981/2 we can offer the following:

- Chinese language courses in Beijing and other cities
- Courses in acupuncture in English
- Special interest tours for botanists, birdwatchers, railway enthusiasts, traditional medicine, potters, lawyers, popular art
- Trekking in the mountains of Qinghai, Sichuan, Xinjiang, Tibet and Yunnan
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- Women's Tours
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**For further information, please contact:**

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152 Camden High Street, London NW1 ONE, England. Tel. (01) 267 9841

# Dinghushan — a Living Laboratory

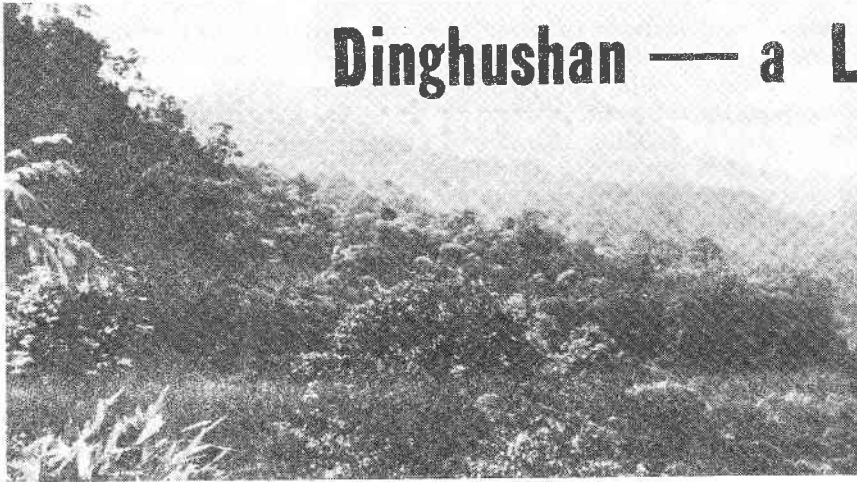
WU HUIMIN

Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

## Unique Forest

Dinghushan is near the Tropic of Cancer, which anywhere else in the world would indicate a desert or grassland ecosystem. But in south China, dense forests appear at the tropic. Many of these forests, however, have declined, but Dinghushan has flourished.

In this 1,133-hectare area many tropical and sub-tropical plants make up a colorful plant community. In the spring, flame-red flowers are ablaze on the kapok trees and oil-tea camellias contrasting with the snow-white blossoms of the gugertrees and chinquapins. Up in the deep forest, 400 years old, white canary-trees, gugertrees, Guanguang wood, *Cryptocarya chinensis* and fig trees grow high up the mountain. Some are 40-50 meters tall and four or five armspans in circumference. The old trees have



Dinghushan Mountain, from which the nature reserve takes its name.

Wang Xinmin

**D**INGHUSHAN mountain rises southeast of Guangzhou (Canton), 86 kilometers from the city. It is a nature reserve now, and also a research center under the "Man and Biosphere" (MAB) program of the United Nations.

For many years, Dinghushan has fascinated scientists with its unique biology. Its sharp thrust-

ing peaks, like an upended tripod vessel, its waterfalls and the begonia growing out of its cliffs entrance tourists. (*Begonia fimbripulula* is called here "the purple-back flower" for the color of its leaves, which make a good sweet and sour beverage.) Since 1956, when Dinghushan was designated a nature reserve, it has been a base for scientific research, academic exchanges and student field work. In 1979 it was made part of the International Nature Reserve by the United Nations

WU HUIMIN is an assistant researcher of botanic ecology at the Dinghushan Arboretum of the South China Institute of Botany of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

A sure-footed Dinghushan serow (antelope goat).



The scales of the pangolin (a relative of the American anteater) have useful medicinal properties.

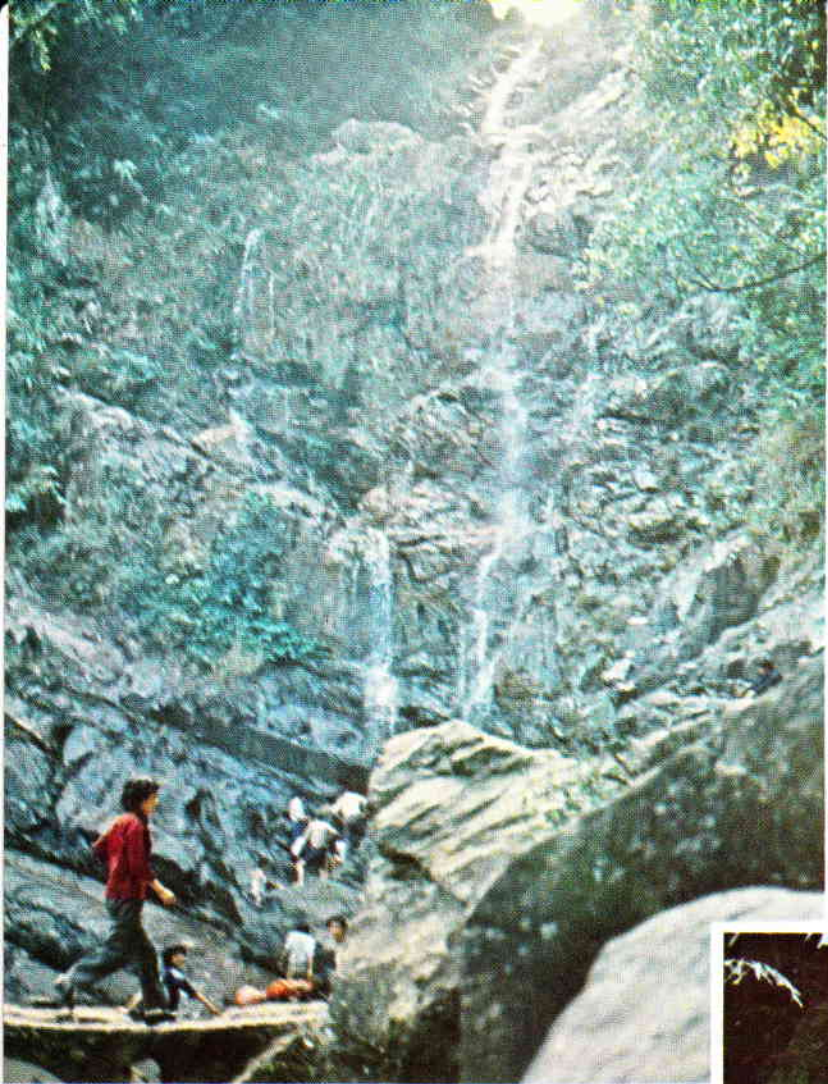




Scientists survey vines on  
dinghushan *Ou Songde*







A waterfall on Dinghushan Mountain. *Wang Xinmin*

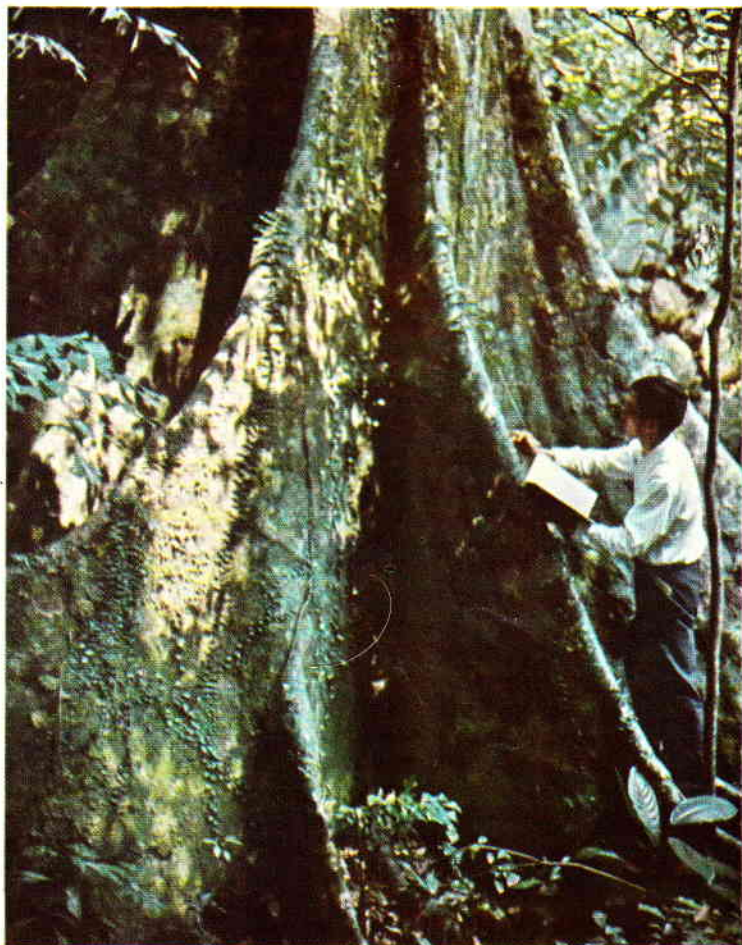
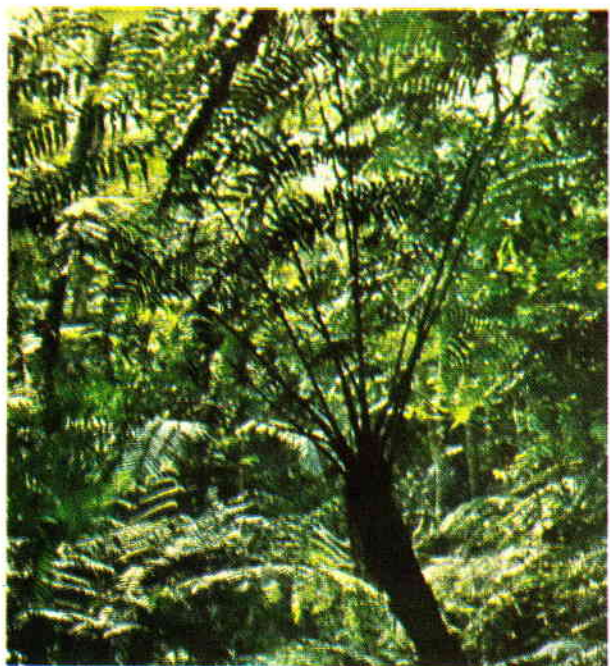


Red-blossomed oil-tea camellias *Ou Songde*



A kind of fig tree, producing fruits along the side of its stems, not at the tips of its branches. *Gao Mingyi*

Cycas, an ancient brake fern. *Wang Xinmin*



Scientist inspects buttresses of a Dao dragonplum. *Gao Mingyi*

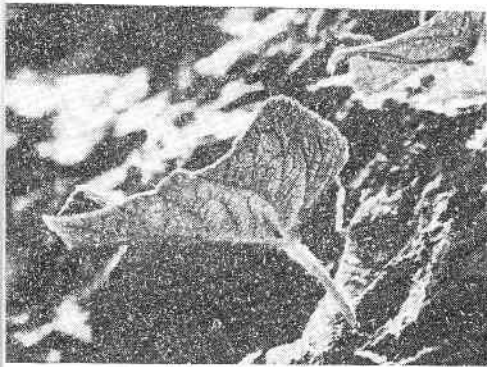


become very strange in shape because they live on the border between different habitats. Fig trees are parasites on other trees, and lianas are known as "pythons of the forest". More than 200 varieties of these twine together on the ground, twist in the air, or creep along the trees and cliffs. *Mucuna birdwoodiana's* 30-centimeter-thick vines have no leaves; but for the small white flowers and brown beans produced by the older vines, no one could tell they were living plants. Dao dragon-plums, fig trees, and wild lychees are tall and straight, their big buttresses stretching far above the ground. The most striking are several cauliflorous plants. They bloom and produce fruits on their trunks all year around. Epiphytes,



Scientists examine some of the reserve's more than 100 species of birds.

Wang Xinmin



Colorful begonia growing straight out of cliff faces are just one of many beautiful and unusual sights at Dinghushan. Photos by Gao Mingyi

which appear parasitic but are not, dangle in the air and root in the crooks of tree trunks, composing a beautiful park in the air.

### Abundant Biological Resources

Statistics, gathered over many years by the Dinghushan Arboretum of the South China Institute of Botany, reveal that Dinghushan has about 2,000 varieties of higher plants including 300 cultivated by the scientists. Among them, redwatertrees, wild lychees and Guangung wood (*Tsoongiodendron odorum*, named for Zhong Guangung (1868-1940), a famous Chinese botanist), get highest-priority protection from

the state. Ancient brake ferns and cycas are living specimens for research in plant evolution from the Mesozoic Era. More than 30 varieties of uniquely local plants are named after Dinghushan, including Dinghu spicebush, *Ilex tinghushansis*, and *Rhododendron tinghuense*. In addition, there are 320 kinds of timber tree, 70 oil-bearing plants, 40 starch plants, 100 fabric plants, 60 tanning extract plants, 900 medicinal plants and more than 300 kinds of fungus.

Dinghushan's high, densely forested slope provide all kinds of wild life with a comfortable habitat. According to the Guangdong Institute of Entomology, there are more than 100 species of bird, including pheasants, partridges, cuckoos, owls, woodpeckers, and sunbirds; 30 animals including serow antelopes, pangolin anteaters, muntjac deer and wild boar; 20 snakes including pythons and various cobra-related creatures; and innumerable insects including five kinds of cicada and a dozen varieties of termite.

Since Dinghushan Nature Reserve became a UN research center, new research organizations have been established. Research designs are based on the first item of the MAB program—the ecological consequences of increas-

ing human contact with the ecosystems of tropical and subtropical forests. Narrowly-focused research has given way to an interdisciplinary program in which the South China Institute of Botany of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the Guangdong institutes of soil, entomology, microbiology, and geography, and the departments of biology and meteorology of Zhongshan University participate. In addition, F. D. Castri, secretary-general of the coordinating committee of UNESCO, H. L. Tellor, of UNESCO's Department of Ecological Science and Prof. E. F. Brunig of the MAB program came to Dinghushan to direct the research.

In two years, the scientists traveled to every corner of Dinghushan, observing its biological resources and natural environment. A number of reports on Dinghushan's vegetation and soil and indices of local birds, animals, insects, plants, fungus and algae have been published. Prof. Bi Zhishu, now with the Guangdong Institute of Microbiology, moved his laboratory from Hongkong to Dinghushan to do research on the area's fungi.

The scientists are preparing to set up pilot experimental stations and small meteorological observation towers for further research. □

# Firm in Conviction, Unceasing in Struggle

## Deng Yingchao Recalls the Long March (Interview Part 2)

**I**N 1932 Zhou Enlai, Deng Yingchao and other prominent Communists working secretly in the reactionary-ruled Shanghai were transferred, by decision of the Party Central Committee, to the main liberated areas of the time, the central base of the Chinese Soviets and the Chinese Red Army in Jiangxi province. The shift was made after the underground in China's cities had suffered shattering blows due to the reckless Leftist line imposed by Wang Ming, then a key leader of the Party, which resulted in exposure and destruction of many of its organizations.

Work in the Jiangxi base was, as Sister Deng said, inspiring and exhilarating because there the Party and people were in power. But the material and other hardships were very great, calling for self-sacrifice in the rear as well as heroism at the front.

"I was working mainly in Party, mass and rural activity in the rear," Sister Deng went on. The base was beset by Chiang Kai-shek's repeated encirclement and annihilation campaigns, with battles every day. Contacts and trade with the rest of the country

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**DENG YINGCHAO**, veteran woman Communist and wife and comrade of the late Premier Zhou Enlai, is a member of the Political Bureau of the Party's Central Committee. This extensive interview was given to *China Reconstructs* in connection with the Party's 60th anniversary.

were cut off by tight KMT blockade. The most acute problem was to supply our fighting men. Not so much with arms, which they captured in quantity from the enemy, but with the elementary needs of life. There was a shortage of grain, vegetables and especially of salt, a physiological necessity, which was not locally produced. With poor and rough nutrition, gastro-intestinal troubles were rife. We workers in the rear voluntarily cut our rice ration in half to feed the front; I myself ate less than two ounces to a meal. At the start, we had a few cents a day we could use to buy non-grain food from the peasants, but as things got tighter this could not be maintained. Finally we gave up lunch altogether. At noon, we would walk back and forth to distract ourselves from our hunger.

### Wrong Policies Bring Reverses

"In 1931, the Japanese aggressors seized China's northeastern provinces, turning 30 million of our men, women and children into slaves of a foreign power. In 1932, they went on to attack Shanghai." But Chiang Kai-shek, instead of resisting Japan, sent his main and best-equipped forces to attack the central Chinese Soviet base in civil war against the people. "In 1932 he threw in 500,000

troops, and in 1933 a whole million," said Sister Deng.

The Leftist policies of the Wang Ming leadership in the Party ultimately wrecked the military position as well, she went on. The first three major campaigns launched by Chiang were defeated by the Red Army applying the strategy and tactics worked out by Mao Zedong. But by the fifth campaign the Wang Ming group had pushed Mao Zedong aside. Instead of mobile and guerrilla warfare, positional defense was ordered by them, which made it impossible to disrupt and smash enemy encirclements.

In 1934, the Central Red Army was pressed so hard that it had to leave the Jiangxi base in a strategic move that would ultimately take it north to the fronts against the Japanese invasion. "More than 200,000 of us started out from Jiangxi," Sister Deng recalled. "It was like a nation on the move."

Thus began the world-famous, epic Long March. It continued over eleven provinces, about half the area of China, reaching a far-off and hitherto-isolated base of the Red Army in north Shaanxi province a whole year later. Red armies in four other revolutionary bases, north and south of the Changjiang (Yangtze) River, also joined in this immense shift.

Sister Deng, worn down by privation and malnutrition, had developed lung TB in 1933. By



the eve of the Long March she was coughing blood. "I can't burden the organization," she said, asking to be left behind in Jiangxi. But the decision was to take her along. "I was on a stretcher for much of the march," she recalls, "in a convalescent unit with some wounded and some pregnant women."

Once more, a period of expansion and victories for the revolution was succeeded by one of setbacks and peril. "On its way from Jiangxi through Hunan, Guangxi and Guizhou provinces," Sister Deng recalled, "our First Front Army was blocked by enemy troops in front, pursued by others from behind, bombed from the enemy planes always overhead. The natural barriers—the mountains and rivers—were formidable. Hungry, thirsty, and exhausted, we had to fight every day. Casualties were heavy. But we did not despair; we thought of how to win. So naturally our minds turned to how, under Mao Zedong's leadership, we had been victorious over previous Kuomintang campaigns. 'We can't go on like this,' we said, yearning for a return to the correct line.

"When we reached Zunyi in Guizhou province in January 1935 we had only 30,000 fighters left. However, the enlarged conference of the Political Bureau held there

became a crucial turning point in our Party's history and the entire Chinese revolution. Wang Ming's Left military line was criticized. Comrade Mao's leading position in the Party and army was established. He, Zhou Enlai and Wang Jiaxiang were designated as a three-man group to direct the march. The crisis was overcome.

"Yet again, our cause turned from weak to strong, from gloom to hope. On Chairman Mao's proposal, the military and organizational steps taken were not accompanied by any attempt to draw political and ideological conclusions. Not to hurry with these was good for unity; he knew it would take time." (Actually, the full assessment was not made till the 7th Party Congress years later, when the correct line had proved itself, everything had been thoroughly studied and discussed, and the maximum number of people could accept what practice had attested.)

Returning to Chairman Mao's principles in military affairs, the Red Army became mobile and flexible in strategy and tactics. It advanced, confidently, ingeniously and with unprecedented speed. In order to force the Jinsha (upper Changjiang or Yangtze) River, the troops had to march 95 kilometers in one day. In this phase, Sister Deng shifted from her stretcher to horseback, though her weakened



Chairman Mao in Northern Shaanxi (1936).  
*Edgar Snow*

legs stiffened so much she could not move them after hours in the saddle.

### Courage and Optimism

The next strategic obstacle was the Dadu River, rushing torrentially between high precipitous banks. It had been picked by Chiang Kai-shek as the place where the Red Army would meet its doom. "Zhu-Mao [a contraction for Commander-in-Chief Zhu De and Chairman Mao Zedong.—Ed.] will be Shi Dakai the Second," Chiang sneered. Shi Dakai had been a leader of the great Taiping peasant revolution of the mid-19th century, who at this spot had been surrounded and annihilated with his entire army by the feudal Qing dynasty. "But we Communists are made of special stuff," Sister Deng said as she re-told the story of the crucial dash over the swaying iron-chain bridge across the Dadu, its planks partly removed and partly set on fire by the enemy, by seventeen Red Army heroes under Chen Geng's command. This valiant action opened the way ahead for the main force.

Revolutionary optimism, Sister Deng said, was the hallmark of this people's army. After the Dadu came mountains so steep that a

Deng Yingchao and Zhou Enlai at the revolutionary base in north Shaanxi province in 1936, after the Long March.



single day's march traversed several climatic zones. "Summer heat at the foot; higher up, exotic plants in a spring-like atmosphere; still higher, yellow leaves like late autumn; and at the top, deep winter. We were enthralled by the spectacular succession — of flowers, trees, frozen streams, fluttering snowflakes. The Long March strained our bodies and will to the utmost. But also brought beauty and joy such as we had never experienced before. Nature's wonders helped us to press on."

### Zhou Critically Ill

Nearly ten months had passed since the start of the march in Jiangxi. At Maoergai, where a stop was made for rest and to replenish food stocks, Zhou Enlai fell desperately ill. He had slept little all along; when the troops were bedding down he would be planning the next day's battles. High fever was followed by coma. The initial diagnosis was malaria, common among the fighters. But when he failed to respond to remedies, a thorough examination (by two ex-KMT army doctors who had been captured, then drawn into the revolutionary cause) revealed his liver to be thrice the normal size, suppurating

and threatening to perforate, with fatal peritonitis ensuing. Liver puncture or surgery were indicated, but both were impossible then, with the Red Army starting to cross the trackless grasslands. All we had were ice-packs, medicine to stop peristalsis, and hope. "I looked in the medical books and found the condition described as hopeless," said Sister Deng. But by a rare chance, when Zhou Enlai's liver perforated, it discharged into the adhering bowel, and he began to recover.

Sister Deng, too, nearly perished in the grasslands. While following Zhou Enlai's stretcher, which was escorted by Commander Chen Geng, she was thrown by her horse into a morass, and soon sank up to her chest. "The stretcher was far ahead and no one could hear my call. Finally some comrades pulled me out. Cold rain, and sleep in wet clothes, gave me a high fever and I could eat nothing for a week. By the time we reached a place called Baxi, where there were Tibetan-style houses, with cattle sheds on the ground floor and living quarters on the second, reached by a ladder, I had no strength to climb up. Cai Chang and other comrades told me afterwards that they wept, seeing me more like a

ghost than a living person. They thought I would certainly die."

When Sister Deng spoke of herself she was calm, but when she recalled how old comrades drowned in the swamps before her eyes, she was near tears.

### Among the Minority Peoples

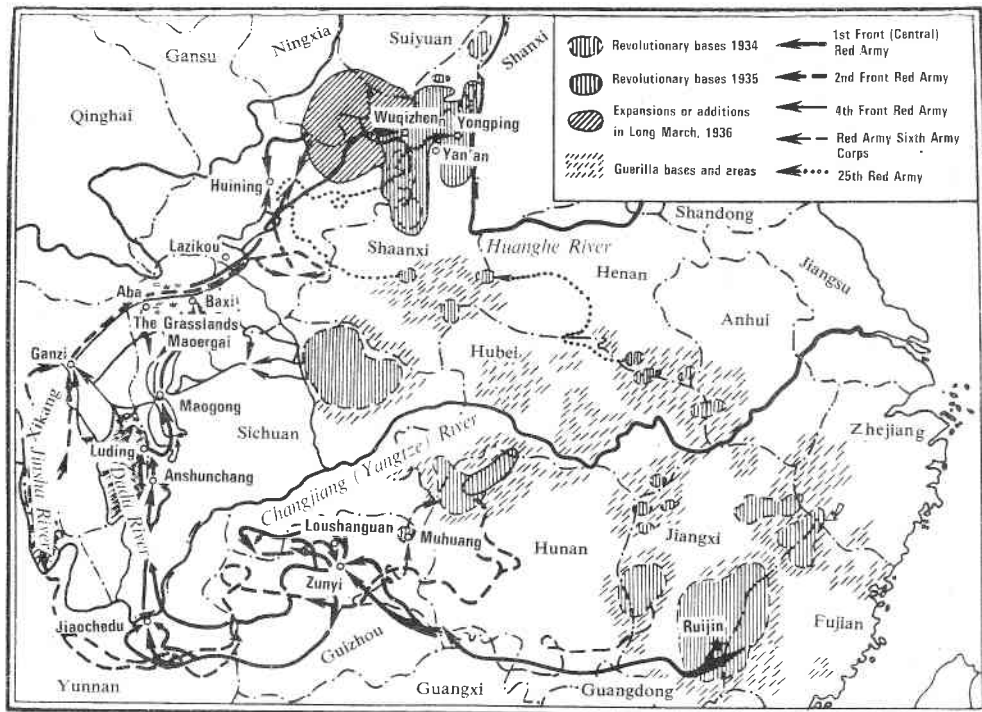
Sister Deng made a special point of the importance of the Red Army's equal treatment of the several national minorities encountered on the Long March.

Because of centuries of oppression, exploitation and discrimination at the hands of reactionary governments and Han (majority nationality) chauvinism, of which the Kuomintang was the worst example, these nationalities were hostile to all Han troops. They had not learned yet that the Red Army was different. Early along the march, the Miao people on the border of Guangxi and Guizhou provinces evacuated their villages in its path, going up into the mountains with their grain stores, cooking utensils and even hand tools for husking and milling. "We found only some millet, and had to husk it by rubbing between two bricks or slabs of wood — even the wounded joined in this. Whenever we did find grain, we would leave money at a fair price in the absent owner's house."

The Yi nationality near the Dadu River were armed. They shot many men of the Red Army as it entered. But the Red Army did not retaliate. Instead Commander Liu Bocheng explained its principles and intentions to a local chief and drank rooster's blood with him in a traditional ceremony of brotherhood. "We not only paid or wrote receipts for all supplies but gave the Yis guns, something no other passing army had ever done. As we marched, they lined both sides of the route, each with

One of the few photos of the troops crossing the grasslands.





his weapon. We felt uneasy, but there was no need. Our actions had won their confidence. That chief came to Beijing after the liberation. Some of the IOU's left by the Red Army were also presented only then, and duly honored. The Yis are upstanding and handsome. To this day I remember the beauty, and especially the fine eyebrows, of two women, a mother and daughter, with whom I lodged."

In the Tibetan minority area of northwestern Sichuan, no grain was available and the growing crop was still in the blade. The Red Army had to subsist on wild herbs, the flesh of horses that died of exhaustion, and boiled-down leather from belts and accoutrements. In Maogai there were fields of *qingke*, Tibetan barley, still unripe for eating. "To be able to go on, we harvested it, leaving a wooden sign in each field saying how much we had cut and that the owners could claim payment, using the sign as a receipt, from

the next Red Army detachment that passed, or later. We roasted and milled the barley as best we could, but it passed right through us undigested and left us with stomach trouble besides."

#### Zhang Guotao's Betrayal

"Exhausted as we were, we could not rest in Maogai," Sister Deng went on. "After only a day there, at 2 a.m. we suddenly got an order to assemble and move on, silently, with no talking in the ranks. Word had come that Zhang Guotao, who controlled the Fourth Front Red Army, had called an illicit meeting insisting that the northward Long March be abandoned for a turn to the south, toward the Tibetan areas in western Sichuan. Zhang sent out a telegraphic order to arrest Comrades Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai, Zhang Wentian and Bo Gu. Comrade Ye Jianying, who received his message, at once told Comrade Mao, who took wise and determined action. Through a night-long march,

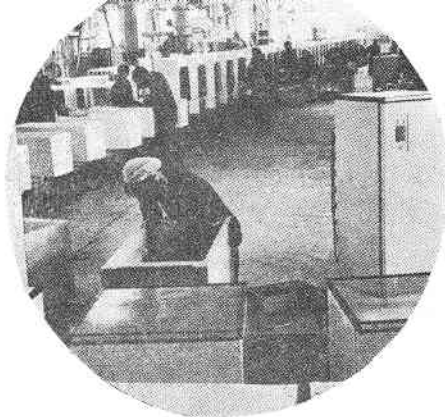
we broke contact with the Fourth Front Army without mutual strife, and the cause was saved. Considerably later, after many vicissitudes, the whole Fourth Front Army realized it had been misled, and rejoined us.

"Pushing north, we crossed the Liupan mountains to the areas of the Hui nationality, then moved into north Shaanxi province where Liu Zhidan had created and long maintained a revolutionary base."

The arduous Long March was over, and victorious. The revolutionary armed forces were ready and in place for the next stage of the Chinese revolution, the Chinese people's war of resistance to Japanese aggression in which the Chinese Communist Party and its armies played the leading role. It was then that the stage was set for triumph in that war and, at longer range, for the liberation of the whole country. □

**A continuation will deal with the Xi'an Incident of 1936, the Anti-Japanese War (1937-45), the War of Liberation (1946-49) and the period of the new China.**





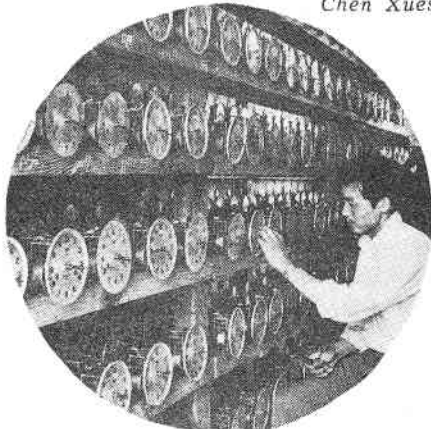
Household refrigerators made in the Beijing Refrigerator Factory.

Song Lianfeng



Automatic electric cookers from Zhanjiang in Guangdong province are in demand for preparing rice.

Chen Xuesi



Clocks are one of the "wanted" items in the countryside.

Liu Xinning



# Readjustment Brings More Consumer Goods

YI XING

**S**IGNIFICANT new achievements have been made by China's light industry in the last two years as part of the country's economic readjustment. Its 1979-80 rate of growth surpassed that of heavy industry. Supply in the market improved, with widely-used commodities like soap, thermos bottles, electric bulbs and kitchenware becoming easily available, and a better assortment of both these and durable goods, and even some luxury items. There was a notable rise in quality. The 1980 output of bicycles, sewing machines, watches, leather shoes and beer was 1.5 times 1979's, and that of washing machines increased several fold.

## Ups and Downs

China's light industry had a better foundation before liberation than did heavy industry, for it had developed out of her traditional handicraft production. But it was still quite backward. The Chinese market was so flooded with foreign goods that the names of many items bore the prefix *yang* (foreign), such as *yanghuo* (matches), *yangla* (candles), *yangyan* (cigarettes), *yangyizi* (soap) and *yangche* (rickshaw).

In the past 31 years many of the industries using hand labor have mechanized, and new plants have been built. The value of light industrial production increased by more than 20 times. It

is an important part of China's industrial complex employing ten million people in 40 different fields. It accounted for 19.3 percent of the total 1980 national product, and taxes paid by light industry, 20.3 percent of the national revenue.

Due to the influence of ultra-left thinking over some twenty years, development of heavy industry was stressed while investment and help to light industry were given a low priority. As a result, light industry lagged far behind. The proportions of farm, light and heavy industry were seriously imbalanced and supply was short in the market.

However, in the past two years light industry has been given priority in six different aspects, including raw materials and energy.

In recent years the state has paid much attention to the improvement of people's life. Personal income has increased in both city and countryside. Now purchasing power is growing faster than light industry. In 1980 purchasing power rose 18.7 percent over 1979, while the supply of goods increased 13.3 percent.

## Market Changes

The rise in the people's level of consumption has brought about a change in market demands. More is being bought by the peasants. Traditionally, the local economy was more or less self-sufficient, and not much was bought from outside. This pattern continued even after liberation, for the peasants' cash income was very limited and they bought few

There will be more medium-grade Daqianmen and high-grade Zhonghua cigarettes from the Shanghai Cigarette Factory for every corner of the land.

Zhang Ping

goods produced by light industry. The picture has changed in recent years. Most of the goods used by city dwellers are also in demand in the countryside. Moreover, peasants are beginning to buy more durable goods, not only bicycles and sewing machines, but watches, radios and TV sets. For every ten households there were 3.6 bicycles, 2.3 sewing machines, 2.6 radios and 5.5 watches or clocks, according to a 1979 rural survey of 10,000 peasant households in 23 provinces. These figures are much larger today.

The demand for more goods among the 800 million peasants provides a large market for light industry. Last year a bumper harvest of cotton raised average personal income by 1.8 times over 1979's in Xiaijing county, Shandong province. Now the 100,000 households have 24,000 sewing machines, although 42,000 more could be sold. Comparable figures for other goods are: bicycles 76,000 with a demand for 41,000 more; desk and wall clocks, 7,000 with a demand for 16,000 more; watches, 8,000 with a demand for 15,000 more; and in addition a big demand for more better-quality cigarettes and wines.

As consumption in the cities has changed, so have priorities in consumer goods—from food, clothing, articles of daily use, to articles of daily use, clothing, food, and from inexpensive, low-grade goods to high-quality goods. Today people are more conscious of style and design.

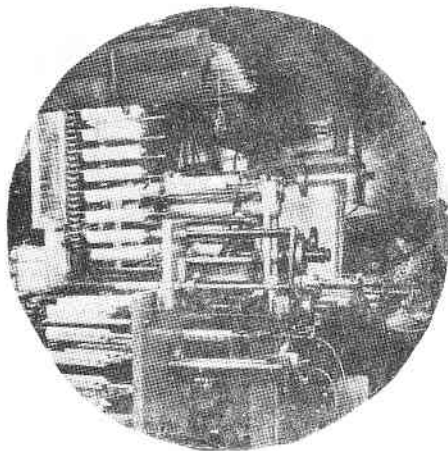
Since most young couples are having only one child as is urged, they can spend more on him or her than when they had several children. This is one reason for the greater demand in items especially for children, including foods, toys, clothing and educational materials. China has 300 million children below the age of 14, among them 100 million infants. There are 18 million babies born annually. This is a big potential market for light industry.

During the present period of economic readjustment, the government has decided to cut back on capital construction in order to

develop production, with emphasis on consumer goods. So light industry will expand and, at the same time, improve the quality and assortment of products for the market. Big efforts must be made to increase production of items in short supply, including durable goods, such as washing machines, electric fans and refrigerators, and wines, cigarettes, clothing, industrial art goods and other things. The supply of these can not meet demands because of the lack of productive capacity and a shortage of raw materials. Today the state is making an effort to solve these problems by adjusting agriculture and heavy industry to produce the needed raw materials, and by tapping potential productive capacities in existing enterprises. Idle workshops in heavy industry will be turned over to light industry, and funds will be invested in building or expanding processing plants using farm and sideline products as their raw materials. □

Childrens' clothing manufacturers in the frontier city of Lanzhou are improving designs, too.

Photo by Zhang Shenggui



One of eleven automatic production lines in the Shanghai Toothpaste Factory. After importing advanced technology it now produces 700,000 tubes a day.

Photo by Xu Yigeng



## Chinese Cookery

### Lotus-White Chicken Slices

(Furong Ji Pian)

- 3 oz. boned breast of chicken
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon rice wine (or sherry)
- 2 teaspoons cornflour mixed with 1 tablespoon water
- 5 egg whites
- 1 cup lard for deep frying
- ½ cup chicken broth
- ½ teaspoon taste powder

#### Garnish:

- 1 tablespoon cooked peas
- 1 tablespoon minced cooked Chinese ham (or other ham)
- Mince chicken fine, mix with 3 tablespoons of broth and pick out tendon fibers. Add egg white and half of cornflour mixture and mix

thoroughly until thick. Add salt and wine and mix well.

Heat lard over a medium fire until it bubbles. (Vegetable oil may be used but here better results are achieved with lard.) Gently pour a third of the chicken batter into it. Fry 10 seconds. Stir oil up from the bottom of pan to help the white blobs of chicken rise to the top. Turn them over and fry another 10 seconds. Remove, drain and place in a serving dish. When cool, the chicken will separate by itself into slices. If it doesn't, slice gently. Repeat twice with the rest of the chicken batter until all is cooked.

Heat the remainder of the chicken broth and cornflour mixture, stir and add taste powder. When it thickens, pour over the chicken slices. Garnish with peas and ham. Serves three.



# YANGZHOU —

## Ancient City Rich in Art

LU ZHENSHENG

**Y**ANGZHOU, at the juncture of the Grand Canal and the Changjiang (Yangtze) River, is one of the cities famous for trade and cultural exchange with foreign countries during the Tang dynasty (618-907). Today the city is noted for its beautiful natural setting and rich traditional culture, which helps explain why so many tourists (12,000 of them in 1980) include Yangzhou on their itineraries.

During the Warring States period (475-221 B.C.), the State of Wu in the lower Changjiang valley established Hancheng on the site of present-day Yangzhou as an outpost for its invasion of the central plains. The city really began to grow early in the 7th century. Sui dynasty Emperor Yangdi ordered millions of laborers recruited to dig the Grand Canal from Hangzhou to Zhuojun near Beijing so as to provide easy transport between the capital and the rich agricultural areas of south China. It is also said the emperor enjoyed visiting Yangzhou to look at the *macrocephalun* (a beautiful flowering tree now very rare in China). Yangzhou became a hub

for communications between north and south China and a major trading port. The city's population reached 500,000, twice its present figure.

### Cultural Exchange

In the Tang dynasty, cultural exchanges between China and Japan flourished. A familiar story is told of Jian Zhen, abbot of Yangzhou's Daming Monastery, and his efforts to reach Japan. He first set sail in 743 at the invitation of Japanese monks when studying in China. He tried five times, but each time his ship was driven back by a windstorm. Despite failing eyesight, he persisted, finally reaching Japan in 753. He is credited with helping to introduce to the Japanese many aspects of China's art and culture, including sculpture, painting, calligraphy, architecture, Buddhism and medical science.

During the Song dynasty (960-1279) Bulhanding, a descendent of the Prophet Muhammed, traveled to China as a friendly envoy and with the hope of spreading the

Islamic religion. He lived in Yangzhou for over 10 years, and eventually died there. His tomb has become a symbol of the historic friendship between China and the Arab world.

Marco Polo, the famous Venetian traveler, came to China during the Yuan dynasty (1270-1368). The Emperor Shizu (Kublai Khan) recognized his talents, and in 1282 appointed him governor-general of Yangzhou, where he stayed for three years. His *Travels of Marco Polo* introduced the civilization of China to a fascinated and disbelieving Western world. A passage from the book described Yangzhou: "The very great and noble city of Yangzhou... has seven and twenty other wealthy cities under its administration; so that this Yangzhou, you see, is a city of great importance... The people live by trade and manufactures, for a great amount of harness for knights and men-at-arms is made there. And in this city and its neighborhood a large number of troops are stationed by the Khan's orders."

### 'Slender West Lake'

After the Tang dynasty, Yangzhou became a favorite scenic spot for pleasure-seeking feudal emperors and officials. Weeping willows were planted along the banks of the Baozhang River near the city. Pavilions, terraces and towers were erected. Yangzhou's fame as a resort city reached its height during the Qing dynasty (1644-1911). Wang Hang, an 18th century poet, called Baozhang River the "slender west lake", comparing it to the breathtaking beauty of the famous West Lake in Hangzhou to the south. The "slender west lake" is known for its long dyke planted with weep-

Happy diners at Yangzhou's Fuchun Baozi (meat-filled buns) restaurant.



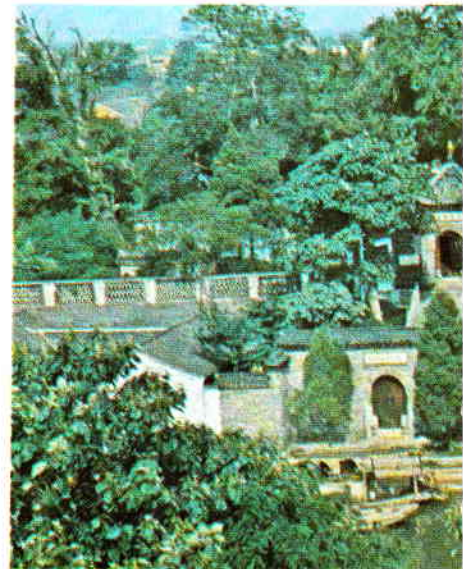
Scene on the ancient Grand Canal.







The temple where the statue of the monk Jian Zhen stands.



Mosque next to the tomb of Mohammed

Fuzhuang floating gardens.

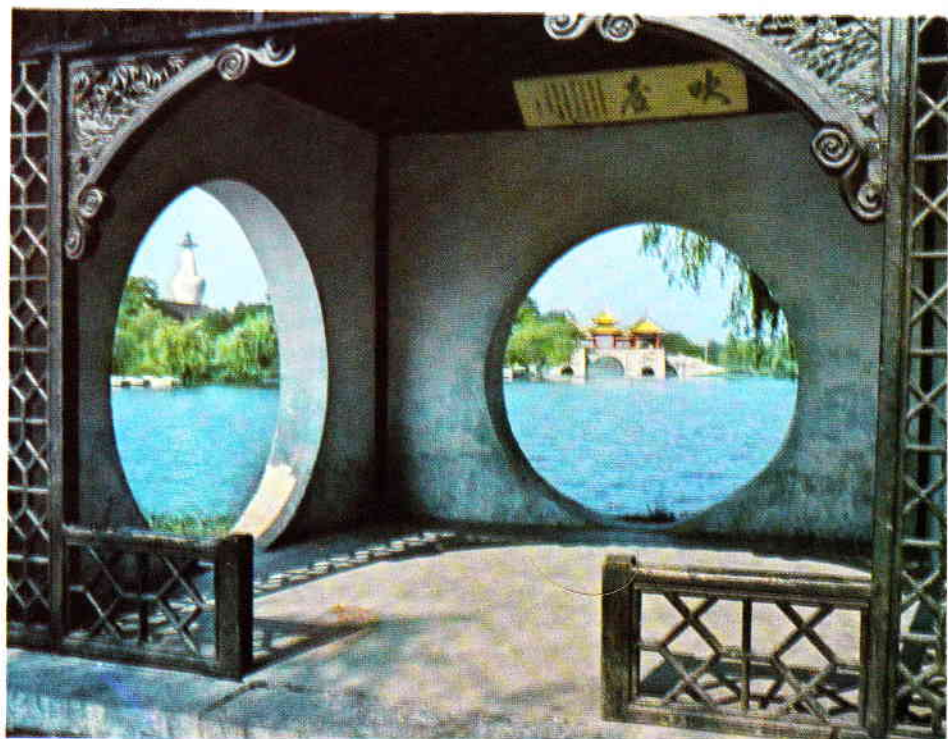
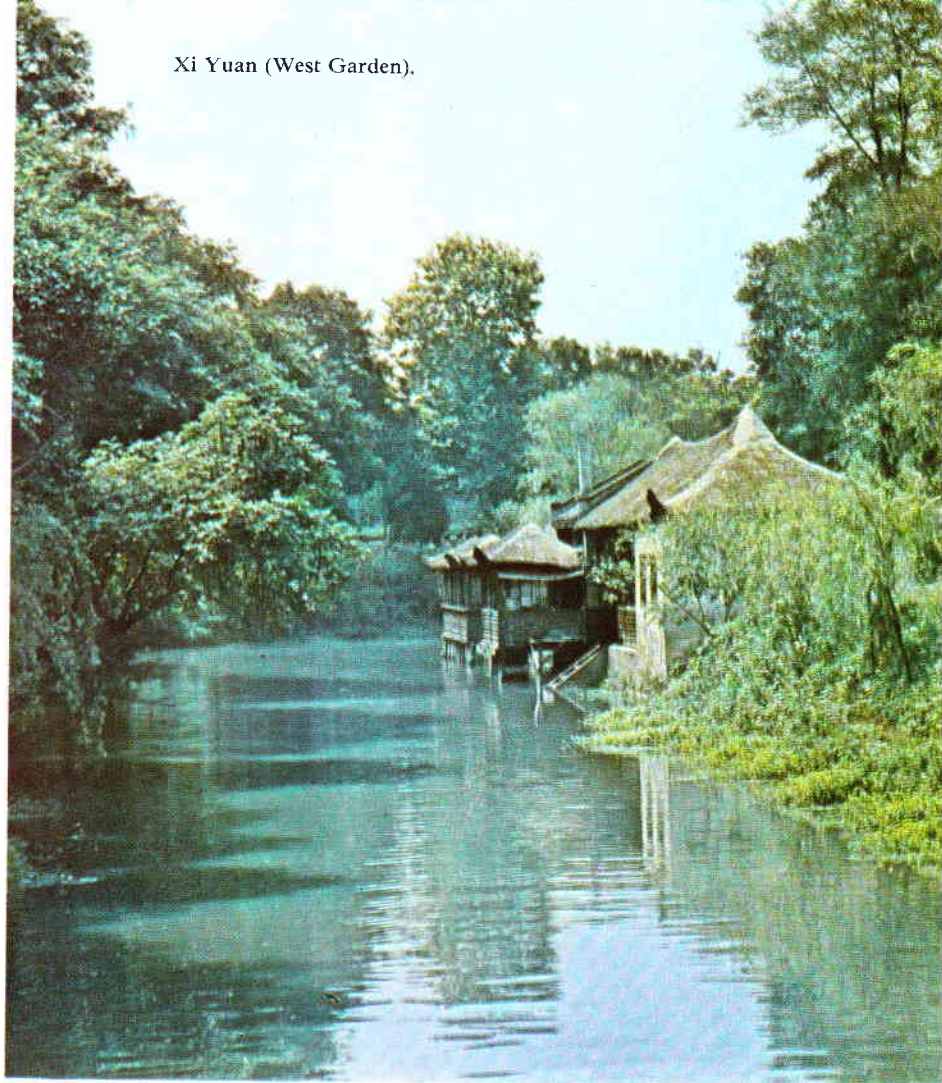




Xi Yuan (West Garden).



d's descendant.



Fishing Platform, said to be a favorite place of Qing dynasty Emperor Qian Long.





Stone pagoda built in the Tang dynasty.

Lock at the exit to the canal enables ships to pass from its higher waters into the Yangtze River.



Hangzhou is famous for its miniature gardens and potted trees.



Photos by Wang Hongxun



ing willows, the Five-Pavilion Bridge, and the White Pagoda.

In Pingshan Park along the river's north shore stands a hall built by Ouyang Xiu, a well-known writer of the Song dynasty, when he was prefect of Yangzhou. Near the hall grows a single *macrocephalum* tree. From a high hillside, Daming Monastery faces the water on one side and is surrounded by pines. The newly-built Jian Zhen Memorial Hall is also located in the park. In the park's west garden — once an imperial garden — there are rockeries, bamboo groves, pavilions and pools.

### Yangzhou Gardens

Yangzhou has numerous gardens in many different styles. Most were once privately owned. Ge Garden, one of the most famous, was once owned by the imperial official Huang Yingtai. Designed by the great landscape painter Shi Tao in the Qing dynasty, the garden takes its name from its bamboo leaves shaped like the Chinese character *ge* (个). The park features four hills whose rock, flower and tree arrangements reflect the four seasons. Autumn Hill, for instance, features yellow rocks and red maple leaves. The white rocks of Winter Hill symbolize snow.

Ge Garden was built by He Zhi-diao, a 19th century Chinese envoy to France. The park is famous for its 430-meter two-story winding corridor which leads to the banquet hall. Inset stone tablets carved with lines of classical poetry line the corridor's walls. Near the corridor is a theater built in the center of a fish pond.

### Poets and Artists

Tang dynasty poets Li Bai (Li Po), Bai Juyi, Meng Haoran, Gao Shi, Liu Yuxi, Wang Changling and Du Mu visited Yangzhou often and wrote hundreds of poems in praise of its beauty. The noted poet Zhang Ruoxu, author of "Blossoms in the Moonlight at Spring River", was born in Yangzhou. Ouyang Xiu and Su Dongpo, celebrated Song dynasty writers, were once prefects of the city.

During the Tang dynasty, the artists Li Sixun and the calligrapher Li Yong were officials in Yangzhou, and in the Qing dynasty the artist Shi Tao lived there. The city also attracted a group of painters known as the "Eight Eccentrics of Yangzhou". These artists wanted to paint bold new contemporary pictures instead of imitating ancient masters. Their favorite subjects were flowers and other natural objects. Criticized in their own day as "heretics" by more orthodox artists, their style has strongly influenced modern artists. The Yangzhou Museum houses about 100 paintings and calligraphy scrolls by these artists, and a research institute to study their work has recently been set up.

### A Walk Through History

Everywhere in Yangzhou are reminders of the city's long history. People often joke that a walk through the city is like taking a trip through the past. On such a trip one might see a stone pagoda and ginkgo trees of the Tang dynasty, the Ming dynasty Wenchang Tower, Siwang Pavilion of the Song dynasty, ancient trees of the Yuan dynasty, Qing dynasty buildings and lanes and the ancient imperial docks — not to mention the new four- and five-story apartment buildings and a new tourist hotel under construction near Yanfu Road.

The Yangzhou Museum displays Han dynasty lacquer, porcelain and pottery unearthed nearby, a canoe of the Tang dynasty, a bronze mirror picturing four polo players on horseback, and hundreds of other relics. The museum also houses the tomb of Shi Kefa, the prime minister who urged the Ming dynasty to resist the Manchu armies from the northeast and, when Yangzhou was surrounded, led the army and people in a heroic seven-day fight till he was captured and killed.

Yangzhou handicrafts — including lacquerware, jade carvings, papercuts, velvet flowers and birds, palace lanterns and embroideries — are prized by collectors and sold in more than 50 countries and re-



A printing block being carved from a single slab of wood. Books handcrafted in the ancient manner are prized by collectors. Photos by Gao Meiji

gions around the world. Yangzhou lacquerware began to be made in the Warring States period, and developed rapidly during the Han dynasty. Today's carved lacquer inlaid with jade, bone, precious stones or shells is as famous as the lacquerware of Beijing or the bodiless lacquerware of Fujian province. Yangzhou papercuts have been famous since the Tang dynasty for their delicate, fresh lines and elegant composition.

The Yangzhou Guangling Ancient Books Block Printing Cooperative has recently printed reproductions of several dozen ancient Chinese classics in the thread-bound style of the original editions. They include *The Romance of the West Chamber*, *the Peach Blossom Fan*, *Stories of Pipa* and *Notes on the Elegies of Chu*. Many of the city's ancient crafts have been restored. Yangzhou cooks, barbers and pedicurists have been known for their excellent skills since the Sui and Tang dynasties. Many noted members of these professions working in Shanghai, Beijing and other cities originally came from Yangzhou. Yangzhou cuisine is as famous as those of Beijing, Guangzhou and Sichuan provinces.

All in all, a visit to Yangzhou is a must for those who love natural and man-made beauty, who appreciate good food and fine handicrafts, who would like to drowse away an afternoon in a beautiful, serene garden or "take a trip through the past." □



# Far from Home: Arab Medical Students in Beijing

LIU JIUZHI

**A**RAB students are to be found at all of China's larger medical colleges, including the Beijing Medical College in the northern suburbs of the country's capital. Currently, out of an enrollment of 3,000, the college has 31 foreign students, nine of them from Arabic countries such as Sudan, Syria, Lebanon and Morocco. The students I spoke with impressed me as a bright, dedicated, friendly group, candid and cheerful in recalling the ups and downs of living so far from home.

## Oh, That Chinese Language!

I first talked with Aldirdiri, a 23-year-old third-year student from Sudan who had been sent by his government at his own request to study in China. Like other foreign students, he first spent eight months studying basic Chinese at the Language Institute in Beijing. "But when I first attended med-

ical classes with Chinese students," he recalled, "I could hardly understand a word my teachers said. I could barely tell whether I was in a physics or chemistry class! When the teacher told an anecdote and the whole class burst into laughter, I felt foolish, for I had no idea what was so funny.

"I was terribly worried and didn't know what to do. But after class, some teachers asked us foreign students to come to another room for special coaching. They patiently repeated lessons until we understood them. I made up my mind to study Chinese harder in my spare time so I could keep up with my class. With a red pencil I marked new words and difficult expressions in my texts. Some pages were completely covered with red dots and lines. I looked up new words in a Chinese-English dictionary, and then translated from English to Arabic. At the beginning, I could master only five or six characters an hour. Because I refused to turn for help to my teachers or classmates before

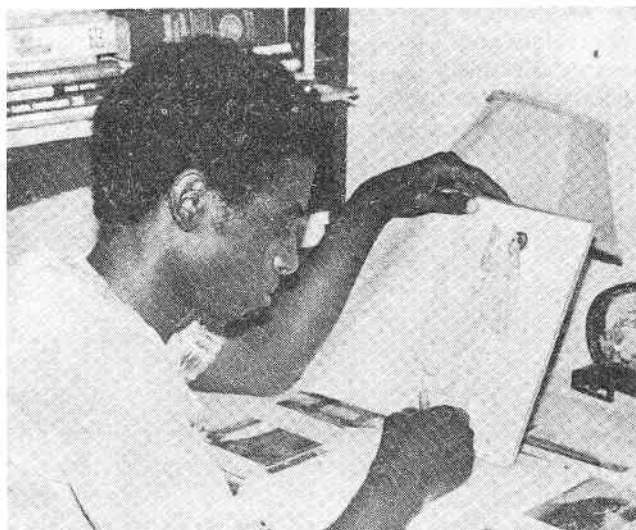
I had exhausted my own resources, it often took me 12 hours to read just one or two pages."

At first Aldirdiri regretted coming to China to study medicine, for he hadn't expected the language to be such a problem. For a while, he said, he also thought of himself as one of the world's great morons for being so slow. But he persisted, and finally the worst was over. Now he can readily understand class lectures and take good notes. He no longer needs the special coaching. Still, in the interests of his studies, he strictly limits time spent on his hobbies—football, poetry and novels. A top player on the school football team, he goes to the sports field only for necessary practice and Sunday matches. No matter how much a poem or novel appeals to him, he saves it for holiday reading.

## Red Palms, Study Rules

While talking with Aldirdiri, I couldn't help noticing that both his palms were painted red. When

LIU JIUZHI is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.



Like medical students everywhere, Aldirdiri often studies late into the night.



Sayed (center) thinks his teachers are tops. At right: his microbiology professor.

I spotted another Arab student's hands similarly decorated, I begged him to satisfy my curiosity. The young man laughed and explained: "My brother got married not long ago. I couldn't attend the wedding, but I held a party here so my friends in Beijing could share my joy. Painting our hands with colorful designs is our traditional way of showing congratulations. So some of us carried out the old custom in honor of the happy occasion."

The name of my cheerful young informant, I learned, was Sayed. A second-year medical student from Sudan, he had already spent one year studying commercial subjects before coming to China. Then why had he switched to medicine? Some people, he reflected seriously, wanted to become doctors in order to make lots of money. But if he had been interested mainly in money, he never would have changed from commerce to medicine. He recalled that as a child he had been very ill and frequently hospitalized. One day he saw a doctor treat a patient quite cruelly. Sayed sympathized with the poor man, and the incident left a lasting impression. His desire to heal people and relieve their pain led to his final decision to study medicine.

Sayed's Chinese is excellent. He was among the best in his class at

the language school. At medical college, he continues to be a good student. Asked to explain his success, he offered three reasons. First, he pays careful attention to class work. As a foreign student, he feels he must attend every class—even if he is not feeling well or has been up late the night before—and listen carefully to the teacher. He takes many notes on each lecture. Second, he makes rational use of his time. Every day he spends three to five hours outside of class reviewing lessons. After dinner he takes a bath and then relaxes for a while by watching television. He may watch the international news, a ball game, dance program, movie, or television play. After that he studies late into the night. Every Saturday evening he joins other Sudanese students living in Beijing. They treat each other to traditional dishes they have prepared, attend a dance in town, or watch films at the Sudanese embassy. The third thing he stressed was the warm assistance he had received from his teachers.

Sayed admits with a grin that he is a very outspoken person, always ready to speak his mind on what he thinks is wrong. After a trip to Shanghai, he suggested to school leaders that they learn from Shanghai and plant many more trees on the school campus. He

also readily confesses that he can be wrong. He once proposed that because of language difficulties the foreign students should take classes alone, and not with Chinese students. Eventually he found that attending regular classes along with special coaching classes was really a better solution.

### Cold Weather, Warm Care

I also talked with Jamil from Lebanon and Khalil from Morocco. Jamil is 21 this year, and has been in China since 1979. In Lebanon, the temperature seldom goes below zero, but in Beijing it sometimes reaches 15° C. below. Not used to this, Jamil often suffers from colds or bronchitis during winter months. But he never misses a class, and gets good marks. Even when hospitalized once, he attended class from the hospital (which is near the school).

Jamil thinks his teachers are very caring and helpful. Teacher Zhao at the language school knows Arabic, but constantly spoke Chinese to his Arab students to give them more chance to practice. Zhao encouraged his students to ask questions, and always gave them satisfactory answers—often stopping at their dormitories for long discussions.

Jamil also praised the Chinese government and the medical school for their treatment of foreign students. The Ministry of Education gives each foreign student a suit of cotton-padded clothing, a cotton-padded overcoat, and 120 yuan Renminbi for pocket money every month. The school has set up a special office to help foreign students in their daily life and study. One of the office workers speaks Arabic, and is very considerate of the students—even coming to see Jamil several times when he was hospitalized. The school shows a film every week, and sometimes sends students to town for cultural performances or holiday activities. The school canteen prepares special meals for Moslem students. The longer he stays in China, the deeper his feelings for the Chinese people.



Jamil (second right) and fellow students in an anatomy lab prepare to dissect part of a human torso.





Khalil's interest in China's traditional medicine led him to become Morocco's first student in a Chinese medical school.



Fascinated by Chinese culture, Khalil never misses a chance to see the sights around Beijing or visit other cities.

Khalil is the first Moroccan student to study in China. He invited me to visit his room, which is in a four-story building the school built three years ago for foreign students. Two students share a room. Those wishing to occupy a room alone pay a sum of 45 yuan. Khalil's roommate is a Guinean student. The room is comfortably but plainly furnished with two beds, a desk, a bookshelf, a wardrobe, and an electric stove. Khalil treated me to soft drinks, cookies, and oranges. His honesty and hospitality convinced me that the Chinese and Arabic people have much in common.

#### Why He Chose China

Khalil told me why he had come to China to study medicine. In Morocco he had been fascinated by visiting Chinese doctors who used acupuncture to cure arthritis and other ailments. Although many of his schoolmates went to France or Belgium to study because they speak French, he chose China because of his interest in traditional Chinese medicine, and despite the language difficulty. Because Chinese traditional medicine is closely linked with medicinal herbs, and Morocco has no such plants, Khalil attends the Beijing Medical College instead of the Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine. But he looks forward to the next school term, when his class will study traditional Chinese medicine and acupuncture.

This young Moroccan is also very interested in China and its people. On his last summer vacation, relatives, friends and schoolmates asked him many questions about China. He brought them gifts of Chinese clothes, silk and handicraft products. One of the local newspapers interviewed him for an article on Chinese history and customs. He has visited Shanghai, Suzhou, Hangzhou, Guangzhou and other big cities, and many beautiful scenic spots such as Mount Tai and Chengde (a summer resort of the Qing emperors). He plans to tour north China, and on his next visit home will have many new things to tell his people. Since China is some 21 times the size of Morocco, he says, there are many places still for him to see.

Khalil gave some more details about foreign students' leisure-time activities. During vacations, the school organizes tours for them and arranges visits to factories, schools and people's communes. It pays 75 percent of the expenses. On Sundays the students often visit parks or go shopping downtown. They celebrate their countries' national days at their embassies. For Id-el-fitr, Moslem students have three holidays, and teachers help them make up their lessons afterwards. The school buses them to a mosque in town for prayer services. As the Corban Festival, Arab students in Beijing organize a celebration. They buy a sheep, some vegetables

and other things, and prepare traditional Arabic holiday meals for themselves and for students of other nationalities.

#### Friendship Overcomes Problems

At first Khalil listened to Chinese songs only to improve his Chinese, but now he has developed an interest in Chinese music. He has recorded many Chinese songs and melodies, and enjoys playing them. He believes that most of the Arab students are happy in China, even though they have some problems. Some school canteen dishes still seem strange and unappetizing. It is difficult for them to make Chinese friends, especially girl friends, and the school doesn't have enough recreational activities. Khalil himself thinks that each nation has its own traditions and habits, and that foreigners should try to adapt to the new environment. China is a developing country, he says, and after ten years of political turmoil needs time to raise people's living standard. He and other foreign students are confident that China will become a strong and prosperous nation, and wish the Chinese every success in their efforts to modernize.

The Prophet Muhammed once said that to learn things you have to travel to China, even if it is far away. These Arab students came to China to learn, but it is clear to me that their presence here cannot help but strengthen the friendship between the Chinese and peoples of their own countries. □

# Spring Comes to the Mei Mountain Ridge

—A Visit to Meixian Prefecture, Home of Overseas Chinese (2)

QING XIANYOU and WU TONG

SETTING out by car from Meixian early in the morning of April 5 and passing the well-known Sanhe bridge spanning the Hanjiang River, we reached the Sanheba in Dabu county on the eastern edge of Guangdong province. It was *Qingming* (day for commemoration of the dead). Several hundred veterans of the Red Army, former guerilla fighters, and representatives of cadres, students and the masses were walking toward the Monument to the Martyrs at Sanheba to pay tribute to the revolutionaries who died there 54 years ago.

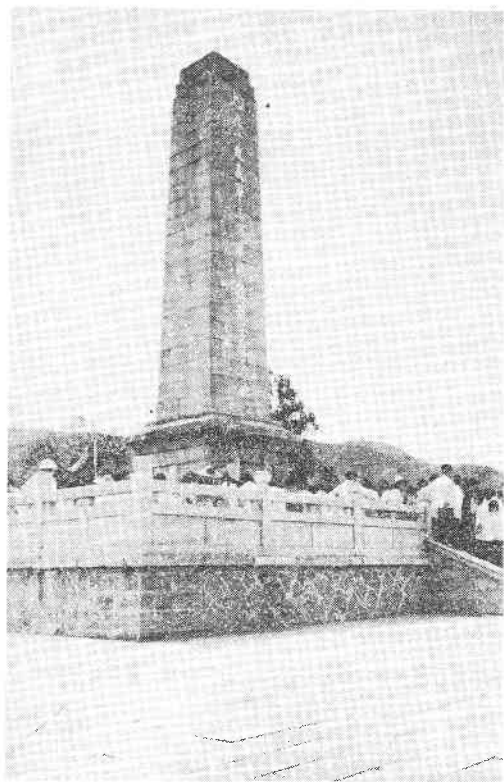
Sanheba is where three rivers meet—the Meijiang that runs through Meixian, the Tingjiang that flows down from western Fujian and the Meitan that flows through Dabu. This place, where mountain ranges overlap and rivers meet, has always been important militarily and as a communications hub. When troops under Zhou Enlai withdrew from Nanchang following the Nanchang Uprising on August 1, 1927, Zhu De fought a fierce battle at the spot with a pursuing enemy force of 30,000. The battle went on for three days and three nights. To

commemorate the fighters who heroically gave their lives in the battle, in 1963 the people in the area built a monument 15 meters high on top of Bizhiwei Hill in the Sanhe commune where the battle took place. It bears an inscription by Zhu De: "Monument to the Martyrs of the August First Uprising Army in the Sanheba Battle."

We met Zhang Guangrao, now over eighty, who at the risk of his life took water and food to the uprising army. He talked about the fighting in the Meixian and Shantou districts and how the uprising army sowed the seeds of revolution in eastern Guangdong and western Fujian provinces.

A town on the Meijiang River used to be flooded every year but now the dyke has been made stronger and higher. Opposite it where the monument is erected stands a new town. The completion of the 240-meter long Sanhe bridge in 1977 has made possible better highway communication between nearby counties, bringing prosperity to the new town.

Rows of new buildings and a network of new roads greeted our



The Monument to the Martyrs erected on Sanheba with the inscription by Zhu De on it.

Huliao, the new county seat of Dabu county.



eyes as we drove into Huliao, the new Dabu county seat constructed in 1961. Not far from Huliao is Chayang, the former county town built about 1,500 years ago. It was in a dilapidated state on the eve of liberation. A 200-meter-long road on the city limits of the new town is all that is left of the old town.

This new county town, 20 times larger than the old one, is situated at the foot of Wuhu (Five-Tiger) Hill, a low ridge shaped like five lying tigers. The top is cloaked in green, the bottom dotted with new buildings. These are the new paper mill, electrical machinery plant, agricultural machinery

QING XIANYOU and WU TONG are staff reporters for China Reconstructs.





Mass production of everyday china of the Gaobei Porcelain Factory.

plant, metallurgical factory, canning factory, clothing factory and residential blocks.

Dabu county has a population of 427,000. Only one-thirteenth of the mountainous county's 2,480 square kilometers can be easily cultivated. This is one reason why many people have left. Also, quite a few officials in the Kuomintang government and army came from Huliao, and some are now still in Taiwan. There are a great many households with members who have lived in Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand for two or three generations. Dabu Middle School (formerly Hushan Middle School) is a public school built in the 1930s with money donated by overseas Chinese. Many talented people were trained there who made contributions in the anti-Japanese war and the revolution. With the care given it by overseas Chinese, this school has undergone big development in recent years. The school buildings have been expanded from 9,876 sq. meters to 13,964 sq. meters, enough to accommodate more than a thousand students. It has become a key middle school in the district.

### Bridges and Highways

We saw some newly-built bridges in the county, and learned a lot about the highways from one of our hosts.

There wasn't a single highway before 1956. The only means of communication were waterways. Starting from nil, since 1956 the county has built 24 major roads totaling 380 kilometers, many of them blacktopped. Highways now lead to Guangzhou, Meixian, Shantou, Xiamen and Longyan.

Connecting them are many bridges, which were difficult to build. One of these is the Sanhe bridge built in 1961, the longest double spandrel bridge in Meixian district, the 150-meter-long Huliao bridge and the Meihe bridge. Altogether about 160 fairly long highway bridges were built with state funds or with donations from overseas Chinese and their relatives. The actual construction was done by the people themselves. A donation of 332,000 yuan from a HK compatriot named Tian Jiabing built the Huliao bridge in 1980. These bridges mean a lot to the people.

### 'White Jade'

Dabu county is also known as the "Home of Porcelain." The southern part of the county has clay deposits especially good for making porcelain, which has been done there for centuries. The most

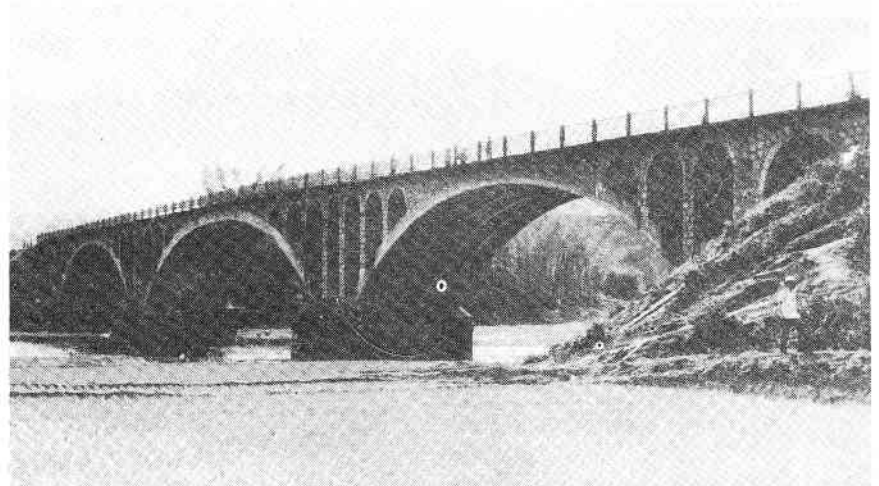
famous locale for this craft is Gaobei beside the Hanjiang River.

The first thing that strikes one on entering Gaobei is the number of porcelain workshops along the street and the piles of white porcelain. For this porcelain, it is known as "Home of White Jade". In the display room of the Gaobei Porcelain Factory we saw scrolls inscribed with the following couplets, "Dazzling jade attracts visitors; red plum blossoms and evergreen pines greet the guests."

The county has a total of 124 porcelain factories of different sizes (not including the kilns of the production brigades), with 12,000 workers and annual production valued at 40 million yuan. Gaobei accounts for 70 percent of this. Dabu porcelain has a history of over 800 years. The county's total output in 1980 was 69 million pieces, ten times more than in the first years after liberation. Production in the initial six months of this year increased by 14.4 percent over the same period last year, and quality has been much improved. These products are exported to over 60 countries and regions and have won wide acclaim at home and abroad.

Gaobei produces mainly Chinese and Western dinner sets, tea sets and brush-writing implements over 600 in variety, plus over a hundred kinds of art porcelain. Its traditional product—the white tea

The Huliao Bridge built with a donation by Tian Jiabing.



set — is honored as the “flower of porcelain” in Guangdong province. It is so thin and delicate that the entire set — teapot, tray and six cups — weighs only 125 grams.

The Gaobei painted porcelain factory has created new techniques in decorative painting on art porcelain. In place of gold to produce a gold-red color, they use a local product to make a pigment called manganese red, thus saving gold for the country.

### Poor Mountain Areas Change

We took a boat from Gaobei and drifted down the Hanjiang River to Dangxi brigade of the Guye commune. The scenery in this vicinity is most charming, with the water of the Hanjiang River flowing through the mountains and broad stretches of fertile land. Dangxi was once the poorest mountain village in Dabu county, remarked the commune's director, Huang Peiji. Nine out of ten years, this low-lying land yielded nothing. Leaving this poverty-stricken land to seek a better life elsewhere had become the order of the day. Of the brigade's present 2,100 population, 80% have relatives abroad. But this once poverty-stricken place has changed a great deal.

Li Huiquan, vice-chairman of the county overseas Chinese association and other leaders of the brigade welcomed us at the wharf. Eighty-year-old Li Huiquan left

for Indonesia at 22 and returned eighteen years ago at 62. He was our guide during our visit and we learned a lot from him about his life and the changes in his hometown.

We looked at the two newly-built dykes at the Dangxi brigade. The brigade has 60 hectares of cultivable land on the hill slopes and in valleys below. Before the building of these two dykes, crops refused to grow on the low-lying land; harvests often brought in less grain than had originally been sown. With the help of the government and working in the spirit of self-reliance and hard struggle, the local peasants built two dykes in the seven years from 1970-1977. The Dangxi dyke is 800 meters long, 10 meters wide and 8 meters high, and protects 20 hec. of high-yielding paddy fields from flooding; the Dadang dyke, 10 meters high, encircles 33 hec. of paddy fields, ensuring stable yields even in times of drought or excessive rain. The grain yield per hectare is now over 3,000 kgs., and in some places reaches 6,000. The brigade uses low-lying areas to raise fish and lotus roots. Bamboo has been planted on the barren hills. A diversified economy has been developed, changing the face of this mountain village.

As we stood on the dyke and looked out over the freshly transplanted paddy fields, Lao Li told us that now the improved land was

producing results. “This is the happiest Spring Festival I've had since I came back 18 years ago,” he said. He did not forget to tell us the dykes were wide enough to permit overseas Chinese tourists to travel on them by car. Quite a number of overseas Chinese have donated money recently for building bridges, paving roads, building wharves and setting up schools. Some are preparing to start bamboo plantations on the mountains.

Li Huiquan led us to his home in Dangxi village. There we visited his downstairs neighbor Li Fensen. Li Fensen has a seventy-three-year-old mother who is still in perfect health. There are seven in the family. Learning that we came from Beijing, they welcomed us warmly. Their eight-room brick house was built by Li's great grandfather, whose portrait still hangs in the middle of the hall. Three generations of the family have made their home in Singapore and Malaysia and have contributed to the political, economical and cultural development there. The two Li families are close relatives. Many of Li Huiquan's cousins are businessmen or public servants in Singapore. They have families there and have contributed a good deal to that country. Lao Li has met them many times in Singapore and encouraged them to come back and see the dramatic changes in their hometown. □

• Li Huiquan visits Li Fensen and family, relatives of overseas Chinese in Singapore.

Photos by Zhang Jingming and Zhou Youma

Children of Dangxi village.





# 'Home of Football'

WEN WENZHAN and ZHANG JINGMING

**M**EIXIAN county in eastern Guangdong province has a passion for football. With a population of about 500,000, it has 215 football fields and 1,500 teams, enrolling footballers from all walks of life. Since 1956, the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission has designated Meixian "the home of football".

One day in April we watched an interesting exhibition match in the Meixian People's Stadium, between the over-50 players of the Meixian Qiangmin (strong people) Sports Association and the girls' team of the Meixian Overseas Chinese Middle School. This match attracted a lot of spectators from the nearby villages. The veterans' team had a lot of experience and their tactics were flexible, but the girls' team had fortitude—the spirit of newborn calves who are not afraid of tigers. The two

teams played a tight match in the rain; the girls' team lost by only one goal.

Veteran footballer Wen Jixiang, 68, told us that football was introduced to the county as early as 1909. Lacking real footballs, people used pomelo-big, thick-skinned citrus fruits. In 1929, the county organized its first football team, called *qiangmin*, with Wen Jixiang the team leader. Because they often played in the countryside, the sport was quickly adopted by the peasants, and more than a dozen teams sprang up within two years.

After the founding of new China in 1949, the sport became very popular both in the towns and in the countryside, with the support of the government. In 1954 the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission accredited the Meixian team for national competition, and it has since traveled to

17 provinces and municipalities to face up to the best teams.

Meixian county has trained many football players, not only for the national teams, but also for the teams of 11 provinces and municipalities, and some have been chosen outstanding players. In 1956, the Sports Commission conferred the honorary title "home of football" on the county, for its contributions in developing nationally prominent football players and popularizing the sport.

## Football in the Countryside

April 8 was the date for members of the Bingcun commune to go to the county fair. According to custom, the commune was to organize football matches in the afternoon. There were four that day. One was the countywide primary school football match, Bingcun Primary School vs. Meizhou People's Primary School; the others were exhibition games—Renhe production brigade vs. Xilian production brigade; the girls' team of the Meixian Overseas Chinese Middle School vs. the girls' team of Bingcun Middle School and a game between two children's teams of the Bingcun commune. Hearing the good news, we rushed to the spot.

The Bingcun commune has set a good example in promoting mass football activities in the county. On the wall of the commune office were hung flags, diplomas and two silver cups awarded by the national, provincial, prefectural and county administrations. A chart on the wall indicated the results the commune peasants' football team had achieved since

Each of the 22 brigades of Bingcun commune fields a football team; here, the Renhe and Xilian brigades battle it out.



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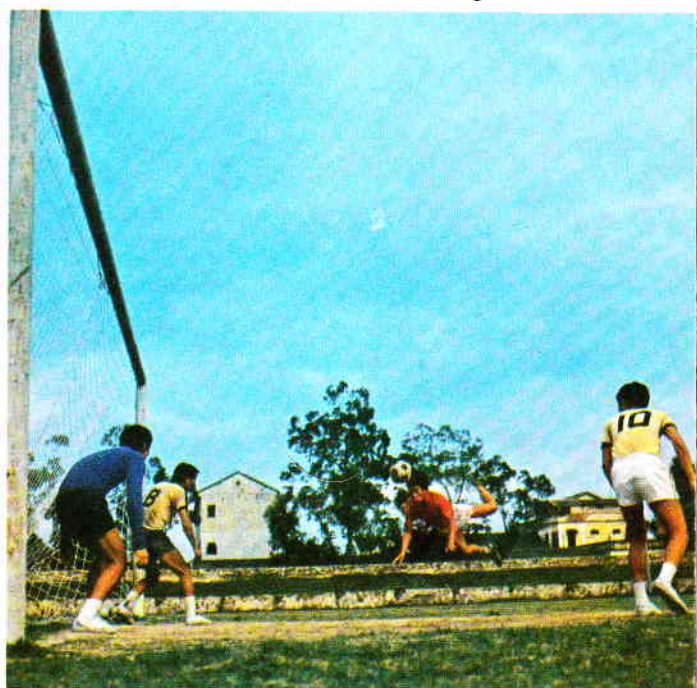
Bingcun commune children start playing football early.

*Photos by Zhou Youma*

Members of the Qiangmin Football Team of Meixian.



The Youth Football Team of Meixian is in a tight match.







Girls' team practices.



liberation: Out of 76 games, the peasants' team had won 42, lost 15.

This was intriguing. Deng Qingqiang, head of the commune, told us that most people in the commune, regardless of age, play the game. Participants account for 67 percent of the whole population of the commune; each of the 22 production brigades has its own team. Thus, it is very common to see matches between fathers and sons, between brothers, and between cadres and masses.

Li Hairui is the leader of the Renhe production brigade, and of its football team. He began playing football 40 years ago, but he is so strongly built that we could hardly believe that he is over 50. He said the peasants' participation in the sport not only promotes their physical strength, but also helps develop production. Several years ago, when the Renhe brigade reclaimed land from a river, it was Li, as brigade leader and football coach, who led the young players to choose the heavy loads to carry. That year they reclaimed 19.3 hectares of farmland and increased their yield by 400 tons of grain.

During the "cultural revolution", the peasants' team was forced to stop its activities and Li Hairui was criticized for his alleged "cups and medals mania". As their football ground was ruined, they had to practice at the edge or ridge of a field. "Things are changing now," he said. "Our favorite sport has had a comeback." In recent years the team has always come out on top in commune competitions.

### Younger Generation

On the commune's green football field, 12 children from the kindergartens attached to Bingcun primary school and Renhe primary school were kicking a small football enthusiastically. They are 4 to 7 years old, but they know the rules and have mastered the fundamentals. Each of the teams has a couple of mainstays. The spectators could hardly help cheering for them or bursting into laughter and applause for their lively if naive demonstration.

As Meixian students love football, the county physical culture and sports commission and the county educational departments have compiled graded teaching materials for students from primary through senior middle schools. Each year the county regularly holds middle school games and primary school games. The Bingcun primary school team has won the county championship seven years in a row.

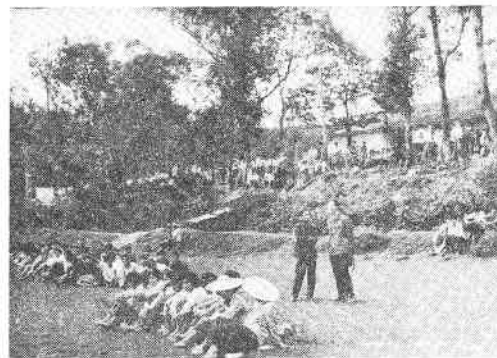
Gao Zhixiang, vice-head of the county and the man in charge of football, said the game is more popular than ever. More attention is being paid now to coaching and selecting outstanding young players for the county's spare-time sports school. The school has trained over 2,500 players, of whom 190 have been sent to the national teams or the well-known provincial teams of Beijing, Guangdong and Hubei; and over a dozen have become first-rate national coaches.

### Women's Football Team

In the past two years, 27 girls' teams have been established in middle and primary schools. This is very new, not only for Meixian county, but for the country as a whole.

The best of them is the girls' team of the Meixian Overseas Chinese Middle School, a fact we appreciated after watching the excellent exhibition game on April 8. The team was set up in the autumn of 1979. It has 22 players ranging in age from 13 to 17, most of them children of overseas Chinese or of veteran players.

After class they get two and a half hours of coaching daily. Once or twice a week they exercise to build their physiques. Ye Zhizhen, who was a bit finicky at first, has become one of the backbones of the team, especially good at offense. Liu Niuqiong, the center forward, is said to play "boy-style" because of her speed, boldness, and strong legs. But she isn't happy with the title. "I have my own style, why should they say I play like the boys?" she asked.



Meixian fans are tough critics, but quick to show their appreciation of fine play.



In recent years, middle school girls' teams have surprised skeptical males: Females make good football players too!



Final game of the county-wide primary school competition in Bingcun.

Wu Tong and Zhou Youma

Lan Mingzhu, daughter of the famous "iron fullback" of the '50s Lan Gan, plays fullback. She is as good as her father on defense, and a cut above him on offense.

Last May the team representing the county, played in the first Guangdong provincial girls' football invitational tournament, held in Guangzhou (Canton). They defeated three opponents to win the provincial championship. □



# Filming Lu Xun's 'Regret for the Past'

SHUI HUA

**L**U Xun (1881-1936), one of China's great modern writers, was a sharp-eyed observer of Chinese society in the early years of this century. His novella "Regret for the Past" tells the story of a tragic love affair between two young intellectuals of the 1920s, but it is much more than that. Clearly and subtly, Lu Xun manages to convey the malign social forces of the period which the lovers can neither understand nor overcome, but which help destroy them in the end.

The writer himself had lived through the democratic revolution of 1911 which had overthrown imperial rule, the weaknesses of the first republic, and the chaotic struggles caused by warlord ambitions and Western imperialist interference. He had close personal contacts with the many young people of China, who, disillusioned with the results of the revolution, had yet been able to pick themselves up, learn from past mistakes, and keep struggling in new ways. But he also understood those young people — like the lovers in his story — who were too weak in character and outlook, too confused and depressed to find, in the words of the story, "a new path."

## Juansheng and Zijun

The major male character of the story is Juansheng, a former participant in progressive student movements leading an aimless life as a copyist in a government bureau. Zijun — the daughter of a

---

**SHUI HUA**, a noted director with the Beijing Film Studio, is Chairman of the Committee on Film Arts and a member of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference.



Director Shui Hua (right) discusses a scene with an actor and actress dressed in period costume.

rich and reactionary feudal family — enters his life. Their idealism, their disgust at the society around them, and their love of literature draws them together. She is brave enough to defy her family and join her life to someone who is poor and of no social consequence, but one senses an essential weakness in her character. They set up house-keeping with great hope, believing that their love for one another will provide the happiness and direction that they lack. But their hatred of the political and social conditions of their time has no outlet in action, their lives no real purpose.

For a while they are happy. Then reality intervenes. They are poor, their food inadequate. She has no experience with cooking and keeping house, and complains that she has "no time" for intellectual pur-

suits. He begins to feel that there must be something more to life, but cannot explain his feelings to her. He loses his job, through the influence of an official who disapproves of the couple's relationship. At first he feels liberated from his meaningless job — he had been "like a wild bird in a cage, given just enough birdseed by its captor to keep alive but not to thrive: doomed as time passed to lose the use of its wings." But he cannot find work, and they are poorer than ever. Gradually he comes to see Zijun and their home as a burden which holds him back. He dreams of travel and adventure, of finding a meaningful job. He wanders the streets and broods in the reading room of the library, reluctant to return to the home that had once seemed a warm refuge, and now seems cold as ice.

Sensing his withdrawal, Zijun can only nag at him and beg for reassurance. They can now barely speak to one another. In an outburst of bitterness, he tells her he no longer loves her. Their "blind love" has provided no answers. They should separate, and each find a new way of life. She reacts quietly, but one day he comes home to find that she has returned to her family. A short time later he is stunned to learn that she has died, unable to bear the scorn and prejudice of society and the loss of what had given her life some meaning.

Bitterly remorseful, Juansheng wishes he could seek out Zijun and beg her forgiveness — even in hell, if there were a hell. Left alone, he feels his life is empty. He longs for some new direction, some new road, but reflects "I don't know... how to take the first step. Sometimes the road seems like a great, grey serpent, writhing and darting at me. I wait and wait and watch it approach, but it always disappears suddenly in the darkness."

### Novella into Film

In planning to film "Regret for the Past" in time for the centennial of Lu Xun's birth, I as director and the entire film group faced a number of problems. We wanted to remain faithful to the original work in style and content, while following the special requirements

of the film medium. A careful study of Lu Xun's text provided many useful pointers.

Lu Xun's style reflects his mastery of both Western and classical Chinese literary techniques. Discarding the logic of real-life chronology, the plot flashes back and forth in time and space in accordance with the story's emotional logic. The pace is varied, sometimes leaping over events, sometimes slowing for a crucial scene, sometimes zigzagging between past and present. All these techniques are of course very suitable for translation into film terms.

Lu Xun's style is terse, sketching in his characters and their background with a meticulous selection of significant details. This method of "conveying the spirit" with a minimum of brushstrokes is common in Chinese traditional painting, and in literature as well. Instead of long passages of description, the writer conveys the personalities of his characters and their relationships by letting us see them in action. This technique — sometimes called the "pure outline" method — is another familiar traditional device, as is the interruption of the plot for the dreams or imaginings of the main character. This analysis of the text suggested some of our major tasks in making the film — selection of the truly significant details that would within the lim-

ited space of the film best convey our story in all its aspects.

Of course, a prose story is not a film. We often had to find visual and audible equivalents of what Lu Xun had described in words. We sometimes used visual metaphors — such as allowing the camera to linger on a concrete detail in a scene, or an atmospheric shot, in order to convey abstractions such as ideas or states of mind. We experimented with pace and other narrative devices. Instead of filling in every detail of the story, we used subtle allusions, trusting that, if our selection of significant details had been careful enough, the audience could fill in the rest of the story themselves. Since the background of the story — Chinese society in the 1920s — is unfamiliar to most audiences today, a few scenes were added showing the historical and social atmosphere of the time.

We hope that our film will bring alive for people today the political and social conditions of this dark period in our history. We hope also there are lessons to be learned from the story of the two young lovers and the ways they reacted to the serious problems of their time. Weak and limited in their characters, hampered by delusions, their idealism comes to nothing. "Blind love" cannot show them the road to useful and happy lives. This is the real significance of the film. □

Zijun, neglected by her husband, seeks affection from a stray dog she has adopted.



Dismissed from his job, Juansheng tries to make a living by free-lance writing and translating.



# Shaolin Monastery and Its Martial Arts

XIN YI and XU ZHAO

**M**ODERNIZATION sometimes takes strange paths. They're making a movie now about the famous old Shaolin monastery in Henan province, the fountain-head of Chan (Zen) Buddhism — and it's a gongfu (kung-fu) flick.

It's not altogether inappropriate, however, since the monastery is also the birthplace of Shaolin boxing, a still-extant form of

**De Chan, abbot of the Shaolin Monastery with Do Shin So, head of Japanese Shaolin Boxing Union in 1979.**

*Tian Chun*



**Depressions worn in the floor of Pilu Pavilion by centuries of boxing monks.**

*Wang Hongxun*



kung-fu with some one million devotees around the world.

Both Chan Buddhism and Shaolin boxing are traditionally associated with a sixth-century monk named Bodhidharma, who is said to have invented both, though scholars are not certain whether he is a historical or a legendary figure. His image, according to tradition, was transferred into a wall that he had contemplated continuously for nine years, but the wall, alas, was destroyed in a long-ago war.

**T**HE MONASTERY is located on Songshan, one of the five sacred mountains, 80 kilometers southwest of Zhengzhou. Built in 495 A.D. by Emperor Xiao Wen of the Northern Wei dynasty, it is nestled in a forest in the northern foothills. Half a kilometer west of the monastery is a cemetery with more than 200 stupas memorializing noted elder monks and monks famed for their fighting skills.

Though the monastery contains many works of art and historical artifacts of the past 1,500 years, what attracts most popular interest

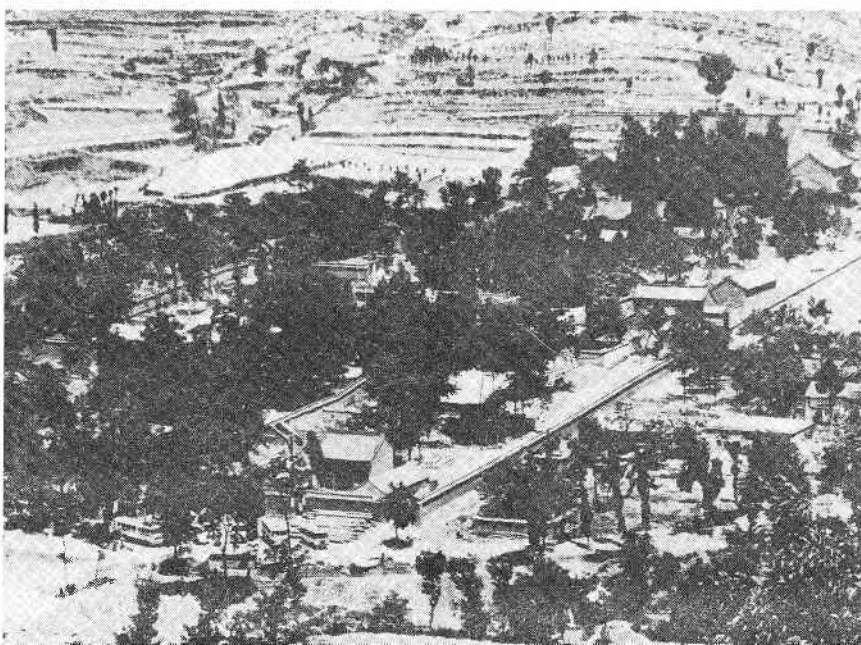
is the mural in White Garment Hall depicting 30 robust monks practicing the martial arts. Done in the mid-19th century, the mural is remarkable for its lifelike figures and attention to detail.

Bodhidharma is said to have worked out the more than 100 movements of Shaolin boxing as an antidote for the lethargy induced in the monks by his teaching of meditation. With further refinement over the centuries, two schools of Shaolin boxing developed. The northern school emphasizes the use of the hands, while the southern school concentrates on the feet. Each of these schools has been further subdivided. So rigorously have the monks practiced since Bodhidharma's time that two rows of footprint depressions have been left in the brick floor in front of Thousand Buddha Hall.

**A**NOTHER MURAL records important episodes in the history of Shaolin boxing. It portrays an ancient city with solid city walls and deep moats surrounded by flags, spears and swords. Arrows

**Bird's-eye view of the Shaolin Monastery.**

*Wang Hongxun*







A student in the nearby Shaolin Wushu School.



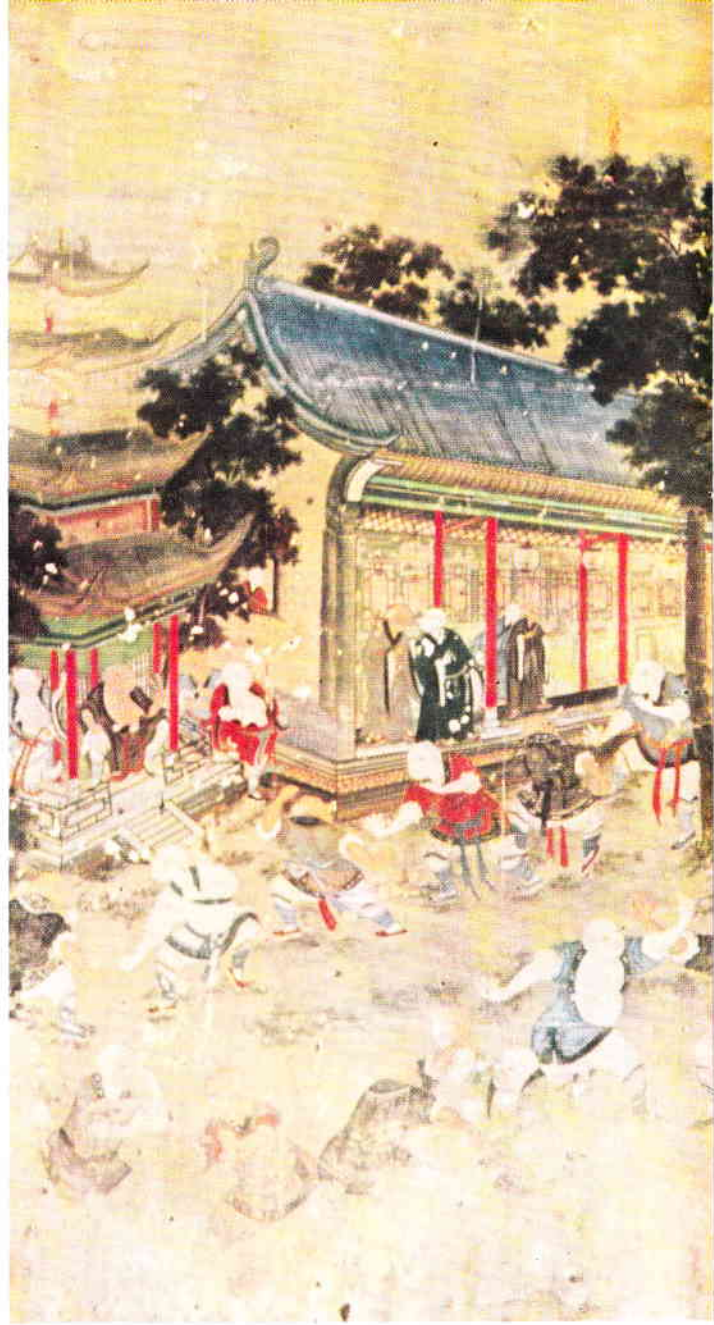


Old monks at Shaolin still practice boxing.

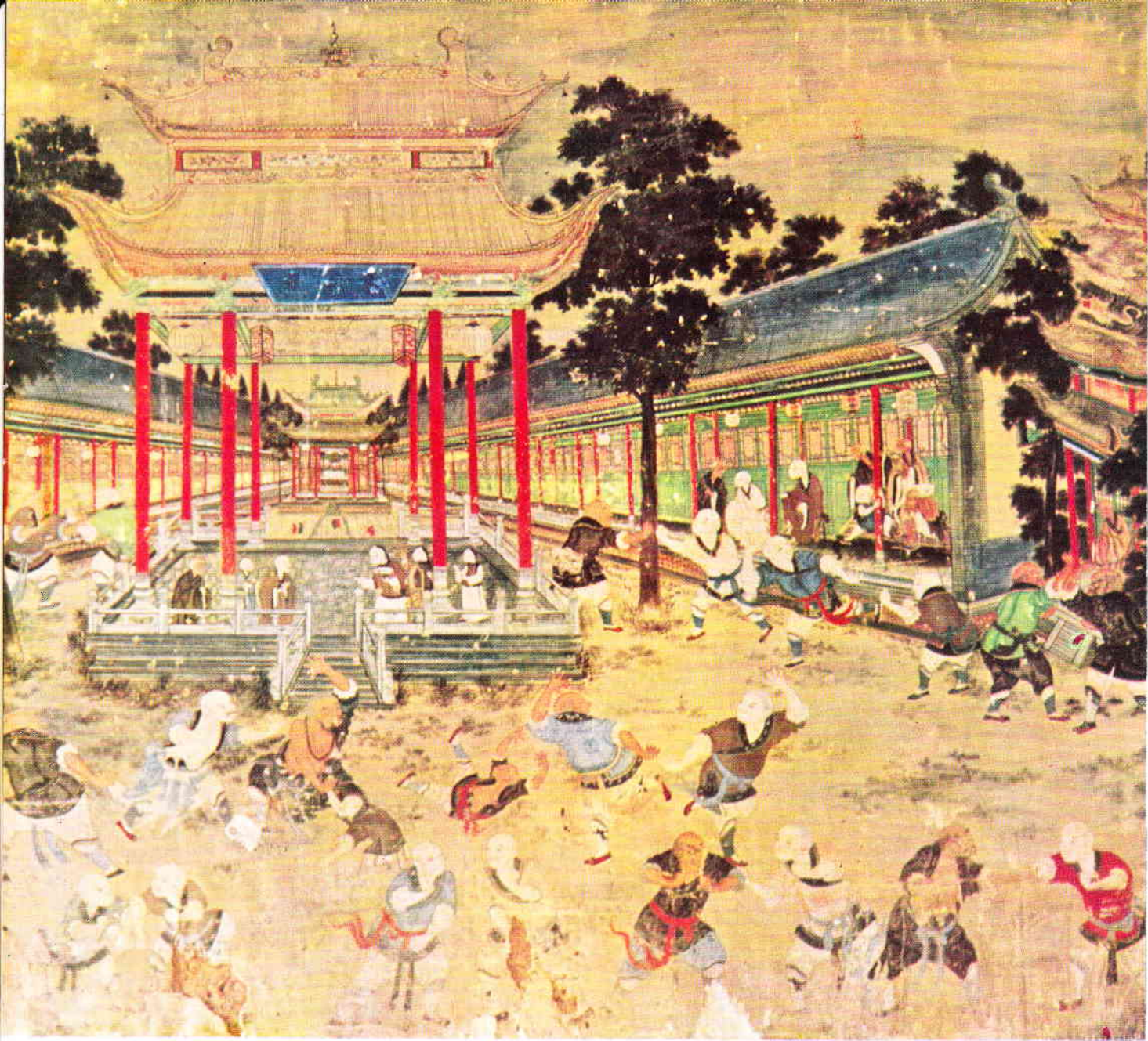


A scene from the film Shaolin Monastery now being shot.

De Chan has been the abbot of Shaolin Monastery since 1916.







Qing dynasty mural shows monks in shorts at boxing.



The entrance to Shaolin Monastery, which dates from 495.





Bodhidharma Pavilion, where the Chinese monk Huike stood in the snow waiting for Bodhidharma to teach him and cut off one of his arms to express his devotion.

The cemetery for noted monks west of the monastery is a forest of stupas.





fly from thousands of crossbows. A dozen monks engage the enemy at close quarters.

The city depicted is, perhaps, Luoyang. The Tang dynasty emperor Tai Zong (early 7th century) went there to suppress an uprising led by Wang Shichong, but was surrounded by Wang's troops. Thirteen Shaolin monks under Tan Zong arrived to rescue the emperor, who in gratitude made Tan Zong a general and awarded lesser honors to the other twelve monks. The emperor also granted large tracts of land and much silver to the monastery, which thenceforth flourished. At its peak Shaolin had more than 1,000 monks.

The monks' defeat of Japanese pirates who had been pillaging the coastal areas in the 16th century is another celebrated incident. Forty Shaolin monks led by Yue Kong organized a detachment of warriors and met the pirates in the Songjiang area near Shanghai.

AS Shaolin's fame spread, the greatest exponents of the martial arts went there to demonstrate and teach their skills, among them the Ming dynasty

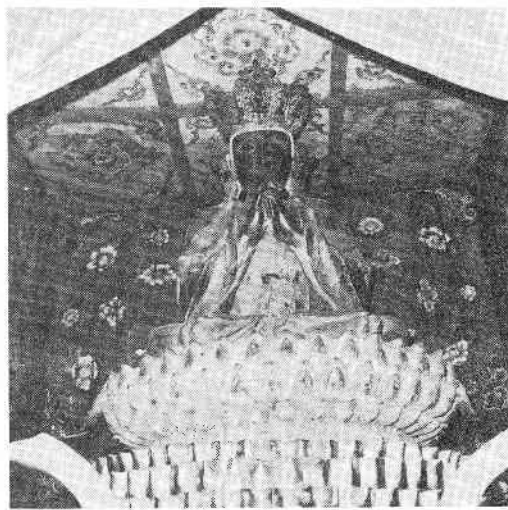


Entrance of the cave where Bodhidharma meditated for nine years.

Tian Chun

general Yu Dayou, who favored the use of the cudgel.

The tradition continues. After liberation, the Shaolin Wushu School was established in the nearby county town, and some of the monks became teachers and coaches. Many local people have presented the school with hand-copied boxing charts kept in their families for generations.



Statue of the Pulu Buddha cast in the Ming dynasty.

Wang Hongxun

The Shaolin Boxing Union was established in Japan in 1946, and now has about a million members in branches in Japan, the United States, West Germany, Indonesia, and other countries. Do Shin So, founder of the organization, first visited Shaolin 40 years ago, and returned in 1979. As soon as he entered the gate, he said, "I'm home again." □

## DO YOU KNOW?

# Facts from China's Book of Records

THE longest poem in any of China's languages is *The Epic of King Ge-Sar*, the narrative of a Tibetan hero dating from the 11th century. It consists of 1,500,000 lines, not including some prose sections.

- The first book on forensic medicine, *Manual of Forensic Medicine* in five volumes, was compiled in 1247 during the Song dynasty. It is 350 years older than the first Western book of this kind written by an Italian.

- The first government-published pharmacopoeia was *The Revised Materia Medica* compiled in 659 by Su Jing and others under the auspices of the Tang court (hence also known as *The Tang Materia Medica*). The 21 volumes describe

853 ingredients. It is 838 years older than *The Pharmacopoeia of Nürnberg*, the first to be published under government auspices in Europe.

- The earliest book on tea, *The Book of Tea* was written by Lu Yu (733-894) during the Tang dynasty. Ten essays in three volumes describe the origin of tea and its varieties, cultivation, processing, and methods of preparation. Illustrations include various kinds of teaware.

- \* The world's first seismograph was made during the Eastern Han dynasty by Zhang Heng (78-133). It was a bronze urn with a pendulum inside which an earth tremor could cause to activate eight sets of levers. On the outside

were eight bronze dragons which by dropping a ball from the mouth indicated the direction of the center of the quake.

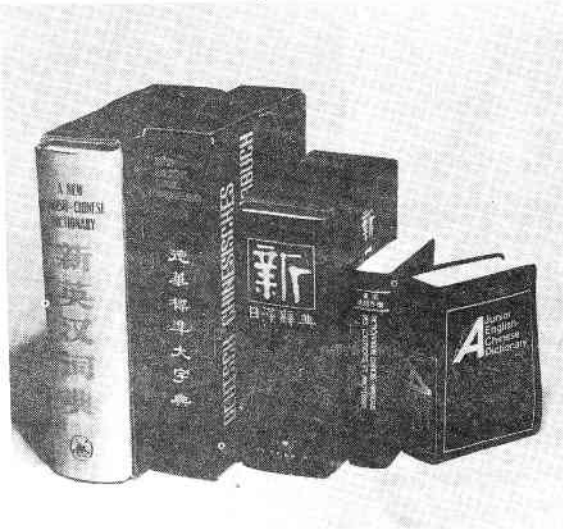
- The earliest record of a sunspot is in *Huainanzi*, a second-century B.C. collection of scientific, historical, and philosophical articles named for the Prince of Huai. It describes "a three-legged bird in the center of the sun."

The official *Han History* from the Eastern Han dynasty (25-220 A. D.), in the section entitled "Five Natural Elements" says: "In April of the first year of the reign of Emperor Han Yuan Di (43 B.C.) in the center of the sun was a black spot as big as a pellet."

"(In March of 28 B.C.) a mass of black gas the size of a bronze coin was seen in the center of the sun."

It was not until August 19, 807 A.D. that the first record of a sunspot was made in Europe. □





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# Youth Service Teams in Shanghai

DONG XIJIAN

ONE morning, five young men arrived at the home of Zhang Jinrong, an old worker at the Shanghai Bicycle Factory No. 3, with hammers and saws and went to work. In one day, they nailed about 500 laths on the ceiling and plastered them. Now the upstairs hubbub can't be heard downstairs, and Old Zhang's rest is not disturbed.

The young men were neither relatives of Old Zhang, nor carpenters, but members of his factory's youth service team, who help fellow workers in their spare time.

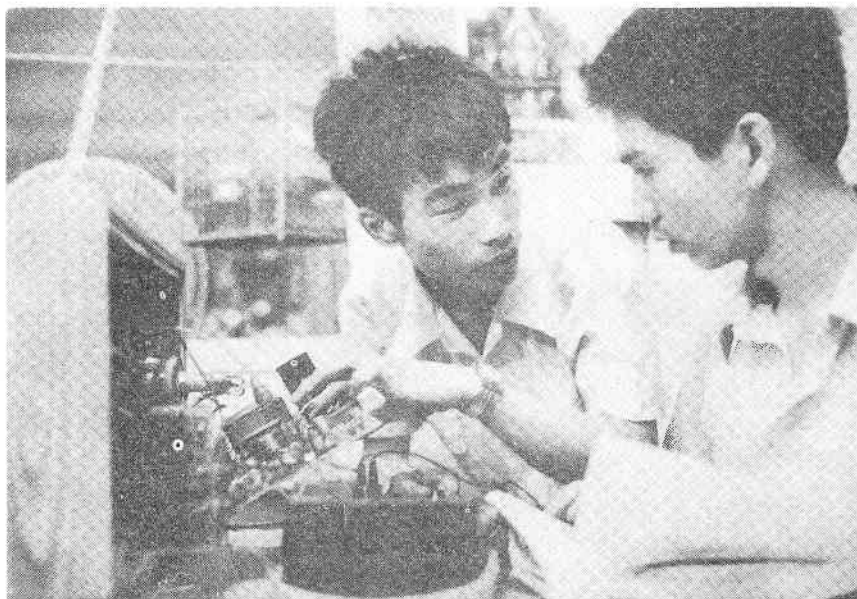
## The First Youth Service Team

The first youth service team was formed in the machine maintenance workshop of the factory a year ago. The "cultural revolution" had deprived many young people of the chance to get an education, but physical labor has taught them to work with their

hands and given them an independent spirit. Many have learned woodworking, lacquering and construction skills; some have learned tailoring. In February, 1980, the Communist Youth League branch in the workshop organized a discussion on "the meaning of life". The discussion became particularly lively when they talked about the tendency of some young people to pay too much attention to clothing and good food, but not attending to their work. Yuan Dingfa, an electrician who is the Youth League secretary, said, "We'd do better to try to change things with our actions, not by sitting here talking. We have a lot of skills among us. Let's get organized to serve the people free of charge in our spare time and to improve social morality with our own actions." So the first youth service team, consisting of 13 young volunteer workers, was formed. They put out an

Yuan Dingfa (left), head of the first youth service team with fellow worker Lü Jianzhong.

Yu Xinbao



Youth service team members in the Shanghai Heavy Machine Tool Factory repair rubber shoes for passers-by.

Yu Xinbao

announcement: "We are Communist Youth League members determined to do something for the personnel of our factory. Please make an appointment in advance if you want to have a water or electric meter installed, household electric appliances repaired, furniture painted or a loft put up. We will do this work free of charge, and promise you'll be satisfied with our work."

## Cultivate Socialist Morality

The founding of that first youth service team attracted quite a lot of attention from young people. Like a snowball, the team grew bigger and bigger, expanding from





**Wang Guiyin (left) of Shanghai Bicycle Factory No. 3 makes summer garments for his co-workers' small children.**

*Yu Xinbao*



**Two members of the Shanghai Sewing Machine Factory No. 3 youth service team repair sewing machines without charge in people's homes.**

*Zhang Yaozhi*

one workshop to the whole factory, from one factory to many—a wrist watch factory, a pencil factory, a sewing machine factory. In Shanghai now there are over 6,000 youth service teams, according to incomplete statistics, with about 100,000 young people. Carrying forward the revolutionary tradition—serve the people—they have become an advance guard in cultivating public spiritedness. Yuan Dingfa, 27, is one of the sponsors and head of the first service team. His

father is an invalid and his mother suffers from high blood pressure, so he has to do most of the housework. But he never allows family affairs to interfere with his twice-a-week service activities. As an electrician, he's front and center when his team repairs electric appliances. But on other jobs, he's a layman. Doing home repairs, he'll prepare plaster and pass bricks; if the job is painting furniture, he'll sand the surfaces. On a water-meter installation, he delivered tools. But he works hard no matter what he does. His mother sometimes asks, "Can't your team do without you?" "No," he says, "I can't leave the service team." He feels at ease only when doing something for others and for socialist construction.

Other members of his team have the same attitude. Wang Guiyin, a tailor, is well-known throughout his factory for making a very good garment. Someone joked, "On the street after work, you could earn at least five yuan in a few hours." He replied, "If I lived only for money, I'd think my life was worthless."

Xiao Qiao, 25, works in the forge. An ex-convict (theft and assault), he returned to the factory feeling he had to atone for his crime. Invited to serve on the

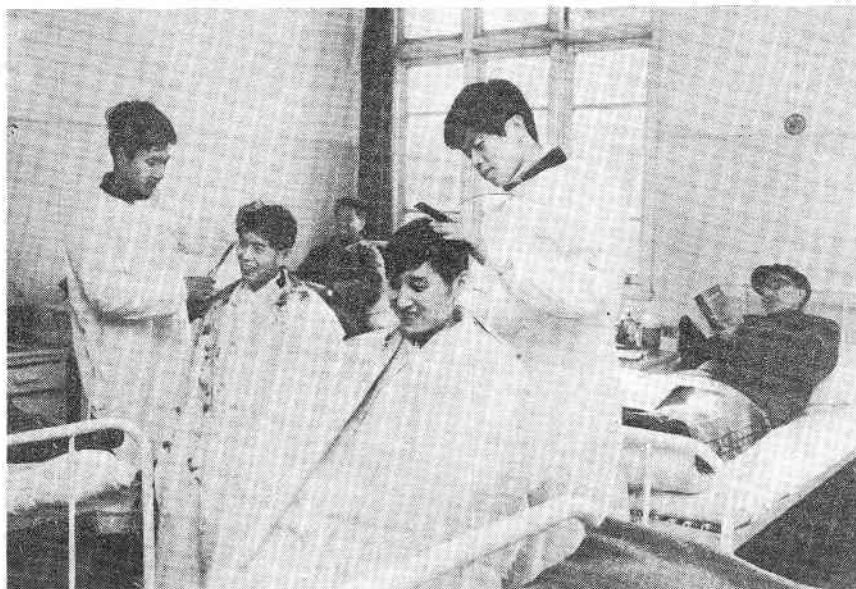
youth team, he moved his family's sewing machine to the shop and has felt more respectable now that people praise him for his workmanship. He says it makes him happy that he can do something for others.

Liu Chi, a painter in the machine maintenance workshop, has learned many skills—including living the easy life and not asking anyone's advice. Of course he was not ready to join a service team. But early this year, helping his elder brother decorate his house for marriage, he was baffled by an electrical circuit. He had to ask the service team for help. Two electricians from the team spent three evenings finishing all the installations. "Real happiness is to be eager to help those in need," he said with emotion. Since then he too has joined the team.

Young workers make up one third of the work force of the China Pencil Factory No. 1. For quite a long time there had been an obvious estrangement between the younger and older workers. Last August, a youth service team was formed in the factory and it mobilized the young people to contribute waste keys (semi-finished keys were in short supply in Shanghai) to make over 200 keys for other workers. The older

**Giving hospital patients haircuts is one service of the youth team of the Shanghai construction company's mechanization team.**

*Zhang Yaozhi*



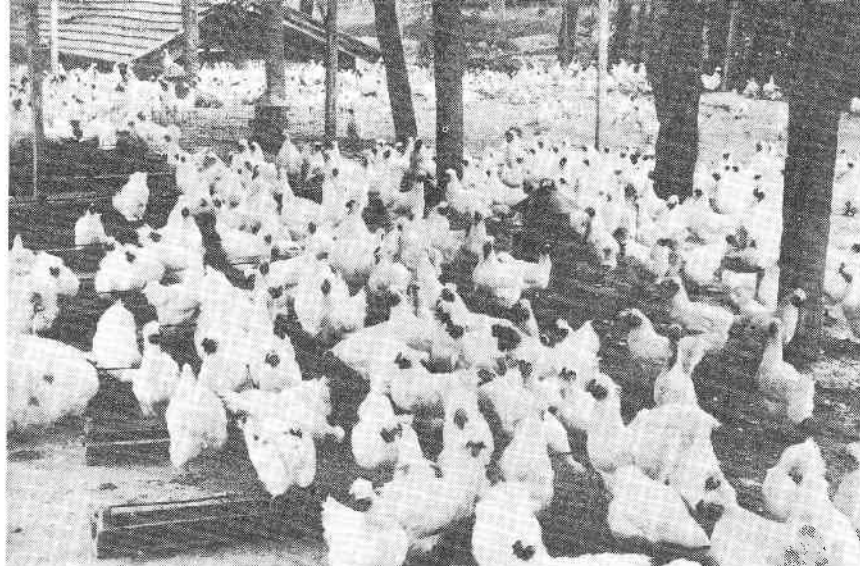
workers changed their views. They'd seen the spirit of serving the people again.

### Develop Their Ability

With the increase in the number of service teams, many young people want to improve their skills and enrich their knowledge. The Youth League committee of Bicycle Factory No. 3 has organized weekend lectures on medicine, tailoring, weaving, painting, cooking, repairing household electric appliances, photography and fine arts. The speakers are themselves young people, and those attending the lectures are not only young people, but veteran workers as well. Young worker Lü Jianzhong liked to assemble radios when he was a child, but since he went to work in the factory forge he hasn't had much time for that sort of thing. Now the service team provides him with a chance to put his ability to good use. He bought a soldering iron, an electric meter and small components with his own money. He often works late into the night repairing radios and TVs for others. When the Youth League committee decided to give him a subsidy for his electric bill, he turned it down, and his mother said no. "I'd like to spend money for my son to have this chance to use his skill," she said. A year of this has improved his skill considerably, to the point that he's been made a professional electrician at the factory.

Many team members have obtained a good command of one or two skills through the "serve the people" lectures. Yuan Dingfa, who used to be good only at appliances repair, now has learned seven skills. He is expert in one thing and good at many in his team.

The youth service teams of the Shanghai Bicycle Factory No. 3 and the Shanghai Sewing Machine Factory No. 3 visited the homes of young people who are waiting for job assignment and organized them to attend the lectures in the factory. With the help of older workers they've learned a skill, which will be helpful in getting a job. □



Black chickens, prized for their medicinal qualities, are now raised at a hatchery outside Beijing. Zhang Jingde

## The Medicinal Bird

YOU XIYUAN

**T**HEY'RE called black chickens, not from the color of their feathers, which are white except in a rare black-feathered species, but because their bodies are full of a black pigment called melanin. From comb to claws, and from skin and flesh to bones and internal organs, they are totally black. Hence another name for them — black-bone chicken.

Long ago, people discovered that the flesh of this fowl was highly nutritious and medically useful. The *Compendium of Materia Medica* written by China's ancient 16th-century pharmacologist Li Shizhen (1518-1593) quotes a Tang dynasty (618-907) prescription: "Fry a thoroughly cleansed black chicken with five different spices," it says, "then seal it in a jar with two pints of wine and let it stay overnight. . . . The brew can be taken as a tonic or to treat nausea and stomachache, and is especially beneficial to lying-in mothers." Later medical works, including the modern *Chinese Pharmacopeia*, recommend the black chicken as a remedy for physical weakness and women's diseases. The eggs of the black chicken have also been used by traditional physicians to treat many ailments.

Today, the chicken is made into Black-Chicken-White-Phoenix Pills (*Wujibai Fengwan*) by the Tongrentang Pharmaceutical Plant in Beijing, one of the country's prime producers of traditional remedies. These are esteemed for efficacy in treating women's disorders.

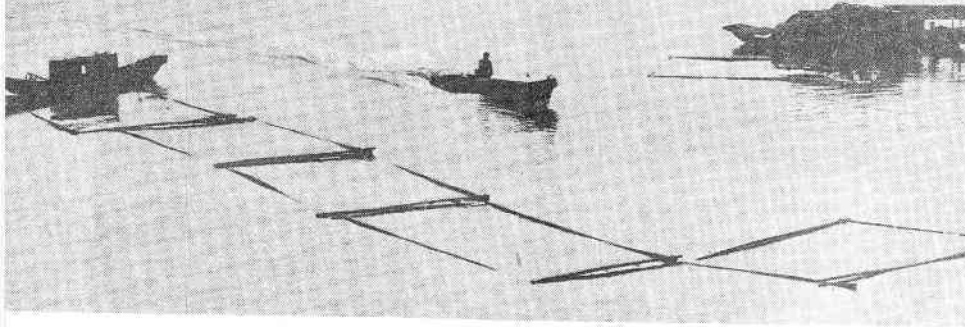
The earliest extant official records about the raising of black chicken date back about 380 years. These fowl were bred by the inhabitants of Xiyanwangpo, a village in the Wushan mountains in Jiangxi province. The village was so isolated the chickens had no opportunity to cross with other breeds. Prolonged in-breeding gradually produced a pure type with stable hereditary traits. Then in 1759, a local scholar presented some black chickens to the emperor, who ordered them raised by peasant families in the outskirts of Beijing.

In 1958, China's first fairly large-scale black chicken farm was set up at the foot of Mount Longshan not far outside Beijing. The farm now raised 20,000 chickens a year, more than enough for the present production of *Wujibai Fengwan* pills. It also supplies black chicks and eggs for breeding purposes in other parts of China. □



# More Freshwater Fishing

CHEN XIAOJUN



Fish at Hubei province's Bailianhe Reservoir are bred in "net boxes" — a new method developed abroad now successfully used in China.

*Liu Xinning*

An abundant catch for brigade fishermen in Zhejiang province.

*Shen Chubai*

**T**HE HIGHEST annual output of freshwater fish in China's history was achieved last year when the figure reached 1,240,000 tons, an increase of 10.8 percent over 1979.

Starting in February 1979, new policies were adopted to encourage a more diversified development of Chinese agricultural production. For some years, forestry, animal husbandry, fishery and some other lines had been neglected, and an overemphasis placed on grain production. State-owned and collective fisheries play a key role, but individual production has become an important supplement. The 800 state-owned freshwater fisheries are now operating at full capacity, with workers' morale the highest it has been in years. The state has also helped 93 counties to set up fish-raising industries and allocated 3,000 yuan per hectare fish pond for investment. County fisheries now encompass an area of 16,933 hectares, and in 1980 supplied the state with 5,300 tons of fish.

To encourage collective fish raising by communes and production brigades, the communes

and brigades are allowed to sell all of the surplus above the state quota of aquatic products. The state provides some fodder grain, fertilizer, timber, bamboo, and oil according to the portion of the fish harvest destined for the state. Fish production undertaken by the communes and brigades has been carried out on the same basis as agricultural production. That is, quotas are fixed on a special team, group or individual basis. Those who fail to fulfill the quota must compensate their communes or brigades 50 percent of the amount they fall below quota.

Weidong production brigade in Jiangsu province's Gaoyou county has a half-hectare freshwater area. In the past, because no one had special responsibility for it, the annual fish output was only 150 kilograms. In 1979 the brigade contracted responsibility for the fish area to four commune members. The annual quota was set at 250 kilograms. Any amount over this quota is divided between the state and the four commune members. The former gets 40 percent; the latter 60 percent. If output falls below quota the raisers must compensate the commune at a rate of 50 percent of the amount below quota. In 1979 pro-

duction reached 1,450 kilograms, 5.8 times the fixed quota, with each commune member receiving 180 kilograms of fish valued at over 300 yuan.

While developing commune and brigade fisheries, the state has also encouraged individual families to raise fish. Hubei province has more households — 260,000 in 1980 — raising fish than any other province. The commune members have not only raised fish in the brigades' scattered fish areas which are inconvenient for collective undertakings, but have dug fish ponds in private plots and around their houses. The collective supplies them with minnows. Commune member Deng Yaoting dug a 100-sq. m. fish pond in his private plot and bought two yuan worth of minnows. In 1979 he harvested 131.5 kilograms of fish. Apart from the fish they ate, the family earned 220 yuan, 21.4 percent of the total family income. Deng's production brigade has 31 households; now each owns a fish pond.

The state has also raised the purchase price by 33 percent. The 1980 output of freshwater fish has increased throughout the country. The fish output in 14 provinces and municipalities set new records.

**CHEN XIAOJUN** is on the staff of the General Bureau of Aquatic Products.

Statistics from Guangzhou showed that the 1980 sales volume of freshwater fish had increased 60 percent over 1979's. The varieties of fish on the market have increased from 20 to 70. Snakehead fish, river crab, freshwater shrimp, white shrimp and cod — rare on the market up to now — appeared in 1980.

### Rational Utilization

China's freshwater area is one of the biggest in the world — 16,700,000 hectares, among them 5,000,000 rearing fish. Besides, there are 25,340,000 hec. of paddy fields in which fish can be raised simultaneously. There are 11,330,000 hec. of marshland which can be developed into fish ponds. Lying largely in the temperate and tropical zones, China's freshwater areas are particularly good for rearing fish.

At present China has over 600 species of freshwater fish. Among the 20 most popular species are: herring, grass carp, chub and bighead known as the "big four" domestic fish. Now soft-shelled turtle, bream, dace snapper — which are much liked by consumers — have been added.

At the time of liberation in 1949 the annual fish output in China was only 150,000 tons. Annual output rose in the 1950s, amounting to 1,230,000 tons in 1959, 7.2 times the 1949 figure.

Freshwater fishing declined in the 1960s and 70s. There were long periods when there was insufficient rational planning of fish resources, so that fishing was carried on at times and places which disrupted fish breeding cycles. A one-sided stress on growing grain led to the draining of lakes for crop land. According to the statistics for Hubei, Hunan, Jiangxi and Anhui provinces, the lake area drained surpasses 1,000,000 hectares. The lake area in the "thousand-lake province", Hubei, has decreased by three-fourths, and no measures were taken to protect fish resources while water conservation projects were being built. Polluted water has seriously damaged the aquatic

environment and affected fish production. A series of measures have been adopted to protect fish resources and encourage the rational development of fisheries.

### Better Breeding Techniques

Ancient records show that Chinese fish production goes back some 2,400 years. The traditional method was simply to catch minnows and put them into fish ponds for intensive feeding. This was wasteful and not very productive. In 1958 a team of scientists led by Zhong Lin created a method of speeding up the breeding and hatching process. The technique of artificial breeding has been entirely solved for the "big four", paving the way for its use on a large scale.

Fish breeders worked out methods for raising in one pond fish whose feeding and swimming habits complement one another. For instance, chub and bighead feed on plankton and live near the surface of the water; grass carp eat water plants and live at a middle depth; herring feed on snails and other mollusks such as cockles, and live near the bottom. The droppings of grass carp encourage the growth of plankton, which is the favorite food of the chub and big head. The plankton-free water benefits the grass carp, which like clear water. Such ingenious combinations have greatly increased fish production.

Scientists have also found ways for communes and brigades to combine fisheries with other agricultural activities. Fermented manures — especially livestock droppings — make good fish food, as do certain by-products of the raising of silkworms. Thus many places in China's countryside now combine fisheries, animal husbandry and silkworm raising.

Aquatic products research institutes have been set up nationally and by local governments. Ten institutes are attached to scientific institutes in related fields. There are about 2,400 scientists and technicians at provincial-level institutes in China, and 528 popularization stations with 2,061 techni-

cians. Over 20 senior middle schools and institutions of higher learning specializing in aquatic products have been set up.

Thanks to scientific breeding methods and new concern for the protection and development of fish resources, we can expect steadily increasing harvests of fish for China's tables. □

A network of research institutes gives small-scale fisheries such as these brigade ponds in Jiangsu province's Wuxian county access to the most advanced methods of breeding and management. You Yungu



Attention to fisheries has added over 100,000 tons of fish to the country's food supply in just one year. You Yungu



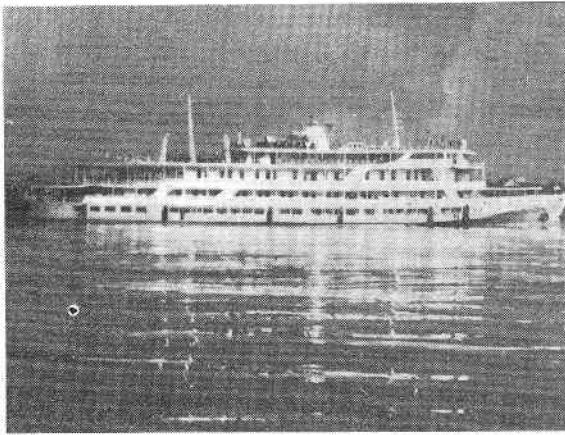




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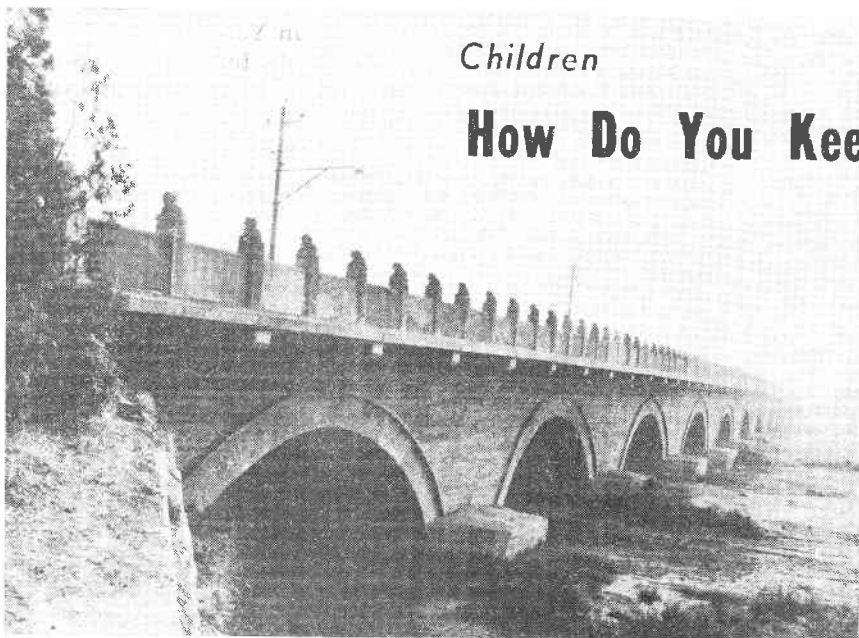
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Children

## How Do You Keep 485 Lions Clean?



**L**UGOUQIAO, or Marco Polo Bridge as this world-famous landmark is also known, was built in 1189 on the southwestern outskirts of Beijing proper. "It is indeed the most wonderful and unique bridge in the world," wrote Italian traveler Marco Polo (1254-1324) in his book *Travels of Marco Polo*.

The bridge, 266.5 meters long and with 11 arches, has 140 sculptured stone balustrades with lions carved on top of them. The lions are excellently crafted in different sizes and postures, some sitting and some lying. It used to be said that it is impossible to make an exact count of them as tourists have often tried to do. Over the years, the stone lions were disfigured by graffiti, or soiled by children clambering over them.

But today, visitors find the bridge neat and clean. How come this change?

Every Sunday morning, a Young Pioneers' flag flutters over the bridge as a group of children with red scarves and basins, pails and rags "bathe" the lions. The children are from the Lugou Bridge Primary School. For nearly a year they have been giving weekly baths to these lions. Last autumn, the children happened to visit the

Great Wall at Badaling and found the site well looked after. A lively discussion took place as they went home. "Lugou Bridge is an important historical site, too," said the leader of their Pioneer group. "but look how dirty the stone lions are! We ought to wash them, what do you think?" Everyone agreed.

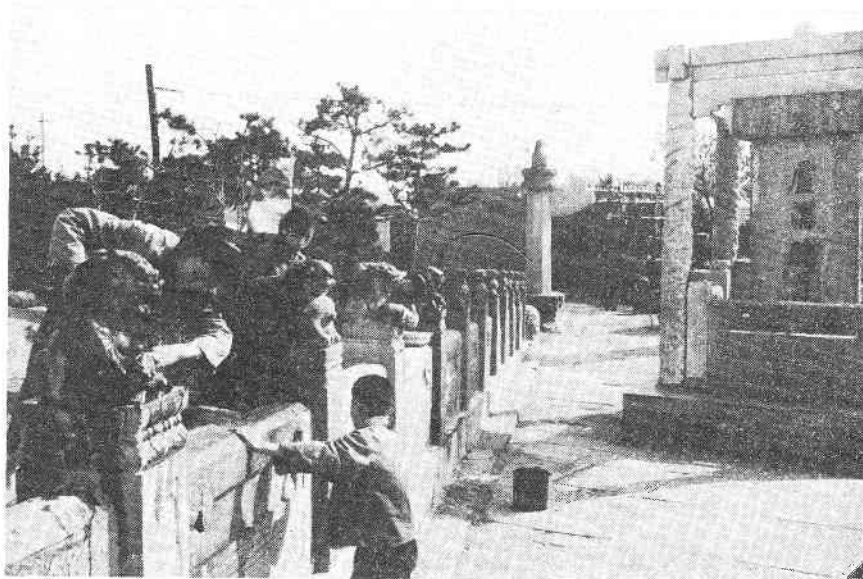
Early the next Sunday, the Pioneers started to clean the lions. It was a tough job; water wouldn't remove the ink and grease stains.

As they were wondering what to do, "Brain-box" Cao Guangrui suddenly turned up with a bottle of gasoline. With this they restored the lions to their former splendor.

Since then, whether it snows or blows, the Pioneers have been coming every Sunday to bathe the lions. Chinese and foreign visitors to the bridge never fail to praise them for their good work. Once someone asked them if they knew how many lions there were altogether on Lugou Bridge. The answer came promptly: "Four hundred and eighty-five."

Today the lions are clean, and the children have cultivated the habit of taking care of public property. Before this, some of them had also been guilty of scribbling on walls or climbing over these lions. But now if they see anyone doing such things, they step forward and say: "Please look after public property!" □

The lions get their bath from Young Pioneers of the Lugouqiao Primary School.  
Gu Dehua





# Ex-Capitalists Aid Economy

LI CHUANG

I picked out Guo Huaifu almost as soon as I entered a workshop of the Dachanglong Wire Screening Factory in its two-story red brick building, one of many in a small alley in western Tianjin. A small gray-haired man nearing 60, he was formerly a small capitalist and once manager of the Zhonghua Electrical Goods Factory and is now director of the 70-worker Dachanglong Factory. Clad in overalls he was bustling about, stopping now and then to coach the young workers.

The Dachanglong, a once privately-owned factory opened in 1919, was the producer of the Golden Deer and Crane brands of copper mesh used in making bam-

boo-rimmed sieves, well-known in China and Southeast Asia. After liberation the factory merged with others and these two brands disappeared from the market. But a shortage of such copper mesh in recent years prompted re-establishment of the factory in 1980 by the Tianjin Investment and Consultation Service Corporation (ICSC) under the Tianjin Federation of Industry and Commerce.

Guo, who many years before had been a worker at the old Dachanglong, was called out of retirement to head it. He is one of a number of Tianjin ex-capitalists in similar roles.

Initial investment provided by ICSC was regained out of the net profit in less than two and a half months of operation. There were five months of preparatory work



Chen Zuying

LI CHUANG is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.

## What Is the Tianjin ICSC?

THE FOUNDING of the Tianjin Investment and Consultation Service Corporation by the Tianjin Federation of Industry and Commerce is an example of how the former capitalists are helping to contribute their business acumen and managerial skills at this time when China is seeking to extend her economy by utilizing a variety of forms.

Its objective is to help develop the economy and open up more job opportunities for young people. The initial fund for investment came from membership dues and the mutual-aid fund of the Tianjin Federation of Industry and Commerce, an organization of national capitalists founded in October 1953 and continuing in existence functioning as a people's organization. The economic units set up under ICSC are in the collectively-owned sector (a form of socialist, not private, but also not state ownership), and are responsible for their own losses and profits. These latter the enterprise may use for expansion and to improve benefits to its workers. Wages paid are not lower than those in the same field in state-owned enterprises. ICSC's 16 units have so far provided 500 jobs for young people.

Most of them are headed by people who once owned small or medium-sized businesses. They are experienced in operating with a small amount of capital, and in careful calculation and strict budgeting. With such management most units are able to make the amount of the initial investment within two months. The government is giving them strong support. The managers hold after-hours classes and symposiums to train young people in managerial skills, hoping that they will be able to take over as soon as possible.

before that, during which Guo never took a day off. "The state trusts us so we should do our utmost for the country," he says.

So far ICSC has invested 700,000 yuan to set up 16 factories, stores and corporations for industry, commerce and services. The directors and managers are all former industrialists and merchants. In Tianjin there are altogether 5,800 people with such experience. Most are retired, but some have taken new jobs in the present period. Yang Tianshou, 82, chairman of ICSC's board was once general manager of the Hebei Provincial Bank and vice-chairman of the board and manager of the Nonggong (Peasant and Worker) Bank. Chen Zuying, 63, former assistant general manager of a trading corporation, and manager of a private machinery plant, also works in ICSC now. Since they and the other managers and directors are retired from jobs in state-owned enterprises, they get the standard 70 percent of their former salaries as a pension from these units, and ICSC makes up the rest to bring the sum up to the former total.

### Chen Zuying's Story

Chen Zuying, now manager of ICSC answered my questions about the feelings of these former capitalists with the story of his own

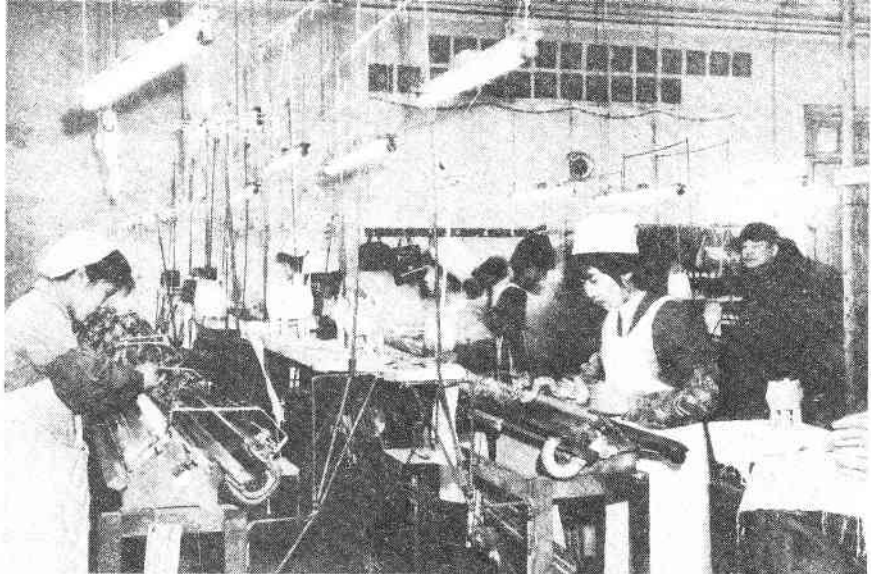
CHINA RECONSTRUCTS

life. Before the liberation his elder brother, Chen Zupei, was general manager of an import-export company with head offices in Hongkong and branches in Shanghai, Tianjin, Guangzhou, Chongqing and four other cities. In November, 1948 as Tianjin was about to be liberated by the People's Liberation Army, the head of the Tianjin branch proposed moving the corporation to the south. Chen Zupei, however, had known people in the China Democratic National Construction Association, a democratic party whose members — national capitalist industrialists and businessmen — opposed Chiang Kai-shek's policies. Feeling that it would be possible to continue the business after Tianjin came under Communist Party leadership, he opposed moving and set Chen Zuying to prepare the firm for the liberation of Tianjin. On the eve of the PLA offensive against the Kuomintang garrison, as KMT officers were leaving for the south with their wives and children, Chen Zuying arrived in Tianjin with his family and took over as manager of his firm's Tianjin branch.

The policy of the Communist Party differentiated between those capitalists with KMT and foreign imperialist connections (known as bureaucrat capital) and the national bourgeoisie, and in the early years after liberation in 1949 protected the latter and enabled them to play a role in developing China's economy. In the course of working together with representatives of the Communist Party in his field, Chen Zuying saw that this policy was being observed so he transferred part of the firm's capital and equipment from Hongkong to start a machinery factory in Tianjin. Those were good years for him. He worked hard but also relaxed by listening to music and reading the great Chinese and foreign novels.

### Socialist Transformation

In 1953 the government began the policy of buying out national



Units started with assistance from the Tianjin Investment and Consultation Service Corporation: The knitting shop in the Sanlian Knitwear Factory (top), and a snack shop staffed by young people in Tianjin's Hexi district.



Young staff of the Anqing (Arrange-youth) General Store, also started with ICSC aid, takes its wares where the people are.







New and veteran salesmen in Anqing Multipurpose Store. Photos by Li Fen

industrial and commercial firms, a process which reached its height in the socialist transformation in 1955 when the bulk of these firms became jointly operated with the state. Chen was one of the first group of capitalists who applied for his factory to become a joint state-private one. The capitalists were to be paid a fixed rate of interest according to the size of their investment. The government set this rate at 0.5 percent to be paid for ten years, a far higher rate than the 0.3 or 0.4 percent that had been suggested by some capitalists on the basis that government bonds paid only 0.4 percent.

Chen's plant was combined with several others and he himself was transferred to become assistant manager of a larger one, the Metal Wire Company. He was content, he says, and in his life it was reflected in the fact that he again took up the violin which he had played many years before.

Then in 1957 came the anti-Rightist campaign. There were indeed Rightists who attacked the Communist Party, but the campaign against them took in more

people than it should have. Chen Zuying was wrongly caught in the net and declared a Rightist. Demoted, he felt very discouraged.

Then came the cultural revolution in 1966. For decades the Communist Party's policy had been that though the national capitalists were an exploiting class, in China they had patriotically supported the revolution and hence were not to be regarded as enemies but as part of the people. But during the "cultural revolution" this was distorted by an ultra-Left trend. Interest payments were stopped, bank deposits were seized on the theory that these consisted mainly of interest, and individuals were attacked and persecuted as class enemies. Having been a capitalist and been labeled a Rightist, Chen Zuying was an obvious target for criticism and struggle, and had a hard time. Finally he was sent to do ordinary labor in a plant, where he remained until he chose early retirement in 1978.

#### Correct Policy Restored

As the ancient poem goes, "Just as the weary traveler despairs of finding a road/Lo, a village ap-

pears and the shade of willows and flowers of riotous colors beckon." Following the fall of the gang of four in 1976 the Communist Party began to make sure that the original policy was again honored, and to re-examine accusations and redress wrongs. Bank accounts were returned, interest was paid up to its termination date and the national capitalists were again treated as part of the people with the same rights as workers, peasants and intellectuals.

The assessment of Chen Zuying as a Rightist was declared unjustified and withdrawn. Elected to the People's Congress of Tianjin's Hexi district, he became a vice-chairman of its standing committee. Later he was appointed to be a member of the Tianjin People's Political Consultative Conference (his elder brother Chen Zupei is a vice-chairman of the Guangdong Province People's Political Consultative Conference), a vice-president of the Tianjin Federation of Industry and Commerce and an executive director and vice-president of the board of the Tianjin International Trust and Investment Corporation.

Today, he says, his mind is at ease. The violin has come down from the shelf and is heard again in the evening.

"At the time of the socialist transformation in 1956, as a former owner of a private enterprise I thought of myself as a 'guest' of the revolution. Then during the "cultural revolution" I was called a class enemy and Lin Biao and the gang of four said I was a target of dictatorship. But today I am recognized as a person working for socialism. I feel that I should work with heart and soul to build up the country," he says.

In 1979 the government announced that in China the capitalists no longer exist as a class. They are no longer receiving interest payments on their former capital investment and most of the former capitalists who are able to take jobs are living on the proceeds from their own labor. □

# Hou Yi the Sun-Shooter and Chang'e the Lady in the Moon

WEI TANG

**H**OU Yi and Chang'e are two of the best-known figures in Chinese mythology. The story of Chang'e and her flight to the moon is familiar to every Chinese, and a favorite subject of poets. In his poem "Chang'e", the famous Tang dynasty poet Li Shangyin (c.813-858) wrote:

*Chang'e, remorseful for  
having stolen the elixir  
Nightly pines amid the vast  
sea of the blue sky.*

Tradition places Hou Yi and Chang'e in the reign of the legendary emperor Yao, shortly after that of Huang Di. A version of the tale known at least since the Warring States period (475-221 B.C.) describes how, in Yao's reign, ten suns filled the sky. Their heat parched fields, wilted crops, and left people lying breathless and unconscious on the ground. Ferocious animals and birds fled dry rivers and flaming forests to attack human beings.

**T**HE immortals in heaven are moved by the people's suffering. The Emperor of Heaven sends the champion archer Hou Yi to help Yao bring order. Hou Yi, with his beautiful wife Chang'e, descends to earth carrying a red bow and white arrows given him by the Emperor of Heaven. People greet the archer joyfully, as a hero who may save them from their torment.

Ready for battle, Hou Yi strides to the center of the square, draws his bow and arrows, and takes aim at the imperious suns. In an instant, one after the other, nine suns are shot from the sky. As Hou Yi takes aim at the tenth, Yao stops him — for the last sun might be of benefit to people. So ends the story of Hou Yi and the nine suns. Other stories tell of how he slays fierce beasts, birds and

snakes, and becomes a hero to the people.

But Hou Yi has aroused the jealousy of the other immortals, who slander him before the Emperor of Heaven. Soon the archer senses an aloofness, a lack of confidence, in the Emperor's attitude. Finally, Hou Yi and his wife are banished forever from heaven and forced to live by hunting on earth.

This description appears in written form in two Western Han dynasty (206 B.C.-A.D. 24) collections, *Shanhaijing* (Classic of the Mountains and Seas, a book of travels and tales) and *Huainanzi* (scientific, historical and philosophical articles named for the Prince of Huai).

**T**HERE are several versions of Chang'e's flight to the moon. According to *Huainanzi*, Hou Yi, sorry that his wife has to lead a mortal's life for his sake, obtains an elixir of immortality from the goddess the Queen Mother of the West. He hopes that, even though condemned to earth, he and his wife may live together happily and forever. Chang'e, however, resents her new hard life, and while Hou Yi is away from home she swallows all the elixir and flies to the moon.

In his poem "Questions to Heaven" Qu Yuan (c. 340-278 B.C.) has Hou Yi betray his wife by having an affair with the wife of Hebo. Chang'e therefore leaves him to live by herself in the moon. There, lonely and solitary, she misses the companionship of human beings and the kindness of her husband.

Mencius, the Warring States period philosopher, and *Huainanzi* say that Hou Yi was murdered by Pang Meng, one of his archer trainees who hopes to become top



archer. Versions differs as to whether Hou Yi was beaten to death with a peach-wood club or shot from ambush by an arrow. Another version has Chang'e drink the elixir to keep it from Pang Meng.

A recent dance drama, *Flying to the Moon*,\* adds to the story of Hou Yi and Chang'e several new plot twists which resolve the inconsistencies of the older stories and highlight the tragic fate of the couple. In this version, Chang'e is a village girl who marries Hou Yi. Pang Meng the sorcerer-chief, seeing his position threatened, tricks Hou Yi into believing that Chang'e has been unfaithful. Still deeply in love with his wife, Hou Yi feeds her the elixir of immortality and banishes her to the moon. Too late, he realizes his error, and dies gazing at her image in the sky.

The noted historian Gu Jiegang (1893-1980), in a study of *Huainanzi* and other classic works, uncovered some stories making Hou Yi's soul reincarnated in the legendary hero Zhong Kui. Zhong Kui, appearing in a dream to a Tang Dynasty emperor, claimed that his mission in life was to destroy all the evils that plagued human beings. Thus, as professor Gu emphasized, both Hou Yi and Zhong Kui were revered by the ancient Chinese as heroes who dedicated their powers to the service of humanity. □

\*See China Reconstructs December 1980.



## Wit and Barbs

### There Must Be a Better Way



#### Dusty Roads Cafe

"Food with a fine local flavor"  
 Customer: There's dirt blowing in through that window!  
 Waitress: Oh, that's our local flavor.

#### Wide Choice

Menu reads: Boiled Cabbage, Fried Cabbage, Stewed Cabbage.



Cartoons by Ding Cong



#### The Smart Way to Rest

— I'm exhausted. After work, I have to buy medicine for my mother-in-law, look for a carpenter to make some furniture, help my children with their homework, stand in line for vegetables and do the laundry.  
 — Then how do you get any rest?  
 — In the office, of course.

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## Lesson 9

## Ancient Chinese Jokes

## (1) Wearing the Wrong Boots

一个人出门，穿错了靴子，  
Yi ge rén chū mén, chuāncuòle xuēzi,  
One man (go) out door, wear wrong boots.

一只靴子底厚，一只靴子底薄，  
yī zhī xuēzi dǐ hòu, yī zhī xuēzi dǐ báo,  
One boot sole thick, one boot sole thin.

走起路来一脚高一脚低，很  
zǒuqǐ lù lái yī jiǎo gāo yī jiǎo dī, hěn  
(begin) walking (on) road, one foot high, one foot low, very

不舒服。他感到很奇怪，说：“今天  
bù shūfu. Tā gǎndào hěn qíguài, shuō: “Jīntiān  
uncomfortable. He feel very strange, say, “Today

我的腿出毛病了？为什么一条腿  
wǒ de tuǐ chū máobing le? Wèi shénme yī tiáo tuǐ  
my legs appear defect? Why one leg

长一条腿短？”

cháng yī tiáo tuǐ duǎn?”  
long one leg short?”

一个过路的人告诉他 是靴子 穿错  
Yī ge guò lù de rén gào su tā shì xuēzi chuāncuò  
A passerby tell him (it) is boots worn wrong.

了。他低头 看了看，发现果然如此，  
le. Tā dī tóu kànle kàn, fāxiàn guǒrán rúci,  
He lower head (and) take a look, discover truly so.

忙 让 仆人 回家 去 取 靴子。  
máng ràng púren huí jiā qu qǔ xuēzi.  
(he) hastily ask servant return home go bring out boots.

一会儿 仆人 空着 手 跑回来  
Yīhuìr púren kōngzhe shǒu pǎohuī lái  
A little later, servant empty handed run back.

说：“不用换了，家里的两只，也  
shuō: “Bú yòng huàn le, jiāli de liǎng zhī, yě  
saying, “No need change, home in two (boots), also

是一只厚一只薄。”

shì yī zhī hòu yī zhī báo.”  
is one thick one thin!”

## (2) Poem (赋) and Thief (贼)

过去 有 一个人，识字不  
Guòqù yǒu yī ge rén, shí zì bù  
(In) past (there) had one man, know character not

多，坐船出外 做生意。一天  
duō, zuò chuán chūwài zuò shēngyì. Yītiān  
many, (he) took boat go out (to) do business. One day

船 停在 “江心寺”，他就和  
chuán tíngzài “Jiāngxīn sì”, tā jiù hé  
boat stop at “River Heart Temple”, he then with

同伴 一起 下船到寺中 闲逛。  
tóngbàn yìqǐ xià chuán dào sìzhōng xiánguàng.  
companion together (get) down boat to temple in idly stroll.

寺院 墙壁上写着 “江心赋” 三  
Sìyuàn qiángbìshàng xiězhe “Jiāngxīnfù” sān  
Temple courtyard wall on written “River Heart Poem” three

个字。他 一见，慌忙 扭头 就  
ge zì. Tā yī jiàn, huāngmáng niǔ tóu jiù  
characters. He once see, hurriedly turned head (and)

跑，喊道：“这里有江心贼，不可  
pǎo, hǎn dào: “Zhèlǐ yǒu jiāngxīnzéi, bù kě  
ran. shout: “Here have river heart thief, (we) should not

久留！”他的同伴说：“不要慌。  
jiǔ liú!” Tā de tóngbàn shuō: “Bú yào huāng.  
long tarry!” His companion say, “Don't be frightened.

这 是赋，不是贼。”他 摇头  
Zhè shì fù, bú shì zéi.” Tā yáo tóu  
This (character) is poem, not thief.” He shake head

回答：“我看有些 ‘贼’ 样子。”  
huídá: “Wǒ kàn yǒu xiē zéi yàngzi.”  
answer: “I see (it) have some ‘thief’ shape.”

## Translation

(1)

A man went out with the wrong boots, one with a thick sole and the other with a thin one. As he began to walk, he felt uncomfortable for one foot was higher than the other. He felt this strange and said, “Is there something wrong with my legs today? Why is one of my legs long, and the other short?”

A passerby told him that he was wearing the wrong boots. He looked down and found that it was really so. He hastily asked his servant to go back home and get another pair.

In a little while the servant ran back empty-handed. “There's no need to change them,” he said. “The pair at home is the same, one with a thick sole and the other with a thin one.”

(2)

In olden days a man who could not read many Chinese characters took a boat to go out on business. One day the boat stopped at the River Center Temple. He and his companion got off and went to look around in the temple. On the temple wall were written three characters “River Center Poem”. As soon as he saw these, he turned and began to run, shouting, “There are river-center thieves here. We should not tarry!” “Don't be frightened,” his companion said. “This character is ‘poem’, not ‘thief’.”

Shaking his head, the man said, “It looks like ‘thief’ to me.”



## Everyday Expressions

- 做 **zuò** do, make  
做生意 **zuò shēngyì** to do business  
做衣服 **zuò yifu** to make clothes
- 逛 **guàng** stroll  
逛公园 **guàng gōngyuán** walk in the park  
逛商场 **guàng shāngchǎng** stroll in the market  
逛大街 **guàngdàjiē** stroll around the streets  
(go window shopping)
- 穿 **chuān** wear, put on  
穿衣服 **chuān yifu** put on clothes  
穿袜子 **chuān wàzi** put on socks  
穿鞋子 **chuān xiézi** put on shoes
- 感到 **gǎndào** feel  
感到高兴 **gǎndào gāoxìng** feel happy  
感到奇怪 **gǎndào qíguài** feel strange, feel something is strange  
感到难过 **gǎndào nánguò** feel sorry
- 出 **chū** appear, come out  
出毛病 **chū máobing** something goes wrong with  
出问题 **chū wèntí** problem appears
- 低头 **dī tóu** bow head, lower head  
低声 **dī shēng** lower the voice

### Notes

#### 1. characters that look almost alike.

Some characters are hard to tell from some others because they differ in only the arrangement of strokes, or sometimes in just one stroke. Yet this single stroke can make a character with an entirely different meaning. For example, when a dot is added to the character **dà** 大 (big), it becomes **tài** 太 (very). If the dot is moved to the upper right part of the character, it becomes **quǎn** 犬 (dog). This phenomenon is the source of many jokes in Chinese, as in the story above where the characters **fù** 赋 (poem) and **zéi** 贼 (thief) looked alike to the traveler. Here are some characters in previous lessons which look somewhat alike.

同	同伴	<b>tóngbàn</b> companion
回	回家	<b>huíjiā</b> return home
日		<b>rì</b> sun
月		<b>yuè</b> moon
王	老王	<b>Lǎo Wáng</b> Old Wang
玉		<b>yù</b> jade
光	光辉	<b>guānghuī</b> brilliance
先		<b>xiān</b> first
我		<b>wǒ</b> I
找		<b>zhǎo</b> look for
右		<b>yòu</b> right

石		<b>shí</b> stone
己	自己	<b>zìjǐ</b> oneself
已	已经	<b>yǐjīng</b> already
明	明天	<b>míngtiān</b> tomorrow
朋	朋友	<b>péngyou</b> friend
问		<b>wèn</b> ask
间	中间	<b>zhōngjiān</b> middle
千		<b>qiān</b> thousand
干		<b>gān</b> dry
于	关于	<b>guānyú</b> with regard to
动	运动	<b>yùndòng</b> exercise, movement
刀	刀子	<b>dāozi</b> knife
铃		<b>líng</b> bell
今	今天	<b>jīntiān</b> today
诉	告诉	<b>gàosu</b> tell
听		<b>tīng</b> hear
汽	汽车	<b>qìchē</b> automobile
吃		<b>chī</b> eat
饭		<b>fàn</b> meal
报	画报	<b>huàbào</b> picture magazine

#### 2. 'One high, one low'.

The form used in **yì gāo yì dī** 一高一低 is a commonly-used one for two opposite adjectives. Others: **yì cháng yì duǎn** 一长一短 (one long, one short); **yì hòu yì báo** 一厚一薄 (one thick, one thin); **yì tiáo tuǐ cháng yì tiáo tuǐ duǎn** 一条腿长一条腿短 (one leg long, one leg short); **yì jiǎo gāo yì jiǎo dī** 一脚高一脚低 (one foot high, one foot low).

### Exercises

- Answer the following questions in Chinese:
  - Why did the man run away as soon as he saw the three characters "River Center Poem"?
  - Why was one of that man's feet high and the other low?
- Write out the characters for the words that appear below in the Chinese phonetic alphabet and compare each pair:
  - (1) 我和他好 **jiù** 不见了。
  - (2) 一九六一年 **wén** 化部门才数清了卢沟桥上的狮子。
  - (3) 她是 **shuí** ?
  - (4) 请你 **zhǔn** 来找我。
  - (5) **gè** 种 **gè** 样的花灯漂亮极了。
  - (6) 团城里的大玉佛是著 **míng** 的古迹之一。
- Complete the following sentences with the "one...one..." form:
  - (1) 那个人穿的靴子\_\_\_\_\_。
  - (2) 那两个狮子\_\_\_\_\_。
  - (3) 我的两条毛巾\_\_\_\_\_。



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石

蜡

PARAFFIN

*Our high-quality paraffins include: white paraffin, yellow paraffin, super-quality paraffin, paraffin for food packing and for making toys. We also produce liquid paraffin, candles and other paraffin articles. Our paraffin can be used in pharmaceuticals, packing, paper processing and detergent making.*



